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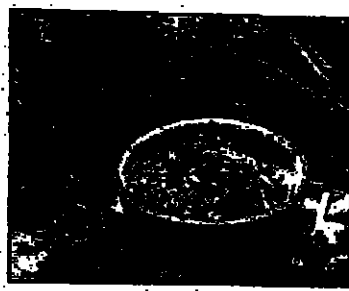
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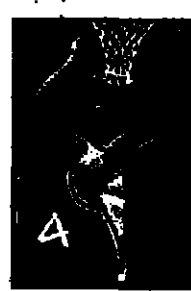
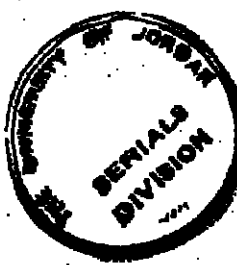
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Great greens



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Turning the tablas



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Russia tops Israel

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Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu concludes talks last night with National Union of Israeli Students chairman Lior Rothbart, as Prime Minister's Office Director-General Moshe Leon (center) and Education Minister Yitzhak Levy look on. (Isaac Harari)

Students, gov't reach tentative deal

By NEEDI J. GELBER

After almost 17 straight hours of negotiating, student leaders and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu reached a tentative agreement yesterday afternoon that would end the strike by making higher education more affordable for all students.

"We are standing before a revolution in education," said Netanyahu, who postponed his trip to Europe several times to continue the negotiations.

"I intend to work toward this as much as I work for security. Security and education are the two building blocks on which we will write the future of the nation and give a better future to its citizens."

He told a joint press conference with Lior Rothbart, head of the National Union of Israeli Students, immediately before leaving for London.

The negotiations are expected to be completed on Sunday, following Netanyahu's return. The cabinet and the students both hope to approve an agreement that evening, allowing classes to begin on Monday.

The students will continue to strike and may hold unofficial negotiations while Netanyahu is abroad, Tel Aviv University student union spokesman Ronen Herszkovitz said. TAU student union leader Erez Eshel said he hopes Netanyahu will give an order from Europe that would make it possible to end the strike.

"I really hope that it will happen tomorrow," Eshel said after speaking at a mass joint demonstration in Kiryat Gat sponsored by the students and the Movement for the Rights of the Unemployed. "To keep us [waiting] until Sunday, is cruel, is playing with naive students who really believe that they can change the world."

Rothbart appealed to the approximately 50 students on a hunger strike, at Netanyahu's request, to halt their strike - but they refused. Adva Rada, a second-year education student at Hebrew University, was adamant last night about continuing the hunger strike she began 18 days ago.

"I am tired and hungry, in my body, there's no strength left, but in

my heart there's lots of hope," she said after the breakthrough was announced.

The student leaders, Netanyahu, Finance Minister Yashov Neeman, and Education Minister Yitzhak Levy have agreed on almost all the disputed issues, Herszkovitz said.

They agreed that all students would be eligible for up to NIS 10,000 in loans for each academic year, he said. Undergraduates would have up to eight years, starting one to two years after they graduate, to repay the loans at a 3 percent interest rate, Haifa University student union head Ohad Segov said. Graduate students would pay 4% interest, he said.

See STUDENTS, Page 4

J'lem Municipality, Foundation split

By ELI WOHLGELER

A 32-year-old alliance between the Jerusalem Municipality and the Jerusalem Foundation is being severed by the city in a power struggle over the nature of the partnership.

There are also mutual recriminations regarding money spent over the last five years.

"In the last four years, there hasn't been any cooperation

between the mayor and the foundation," said Hagai Elias, spokesman for Mayor Ehud Olmert, who is out of the country. "The question is not whether the foundation should be a branch of city hall, but whether it works without any regard to the priorities determined by the municipality. This problem was resolved by the mayor's decision to end contact with the fund. The mayor intends to build a new

fund for Jerusalem, which will operate in cooperation with city hall."

Ruth Cheshin, director of the foundation, said Olmert has wanted full control since he won election as mayor over Teddy Kollek, who established and ran the foundation from its inception following his own election as mayor in 1965.

See SPLIT, Page 4

Colette Avital accused of leaking document

By DANNA HARMAN

The Foreign Ministry is in the midst of carrying out an intensive internal investigation - calling in senior staff members for interrogation - to discover who leaked an important policy document to the press last week.

Colette Avital - head of the European division and former consul-general in New York - was the latest to be questioned, sources said.

According to a top ministry official, Avital was brought back from a conference in Brussels yesterday because of the investigation, on direct orders from Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon.

Eytan Ben-Zur, the ministry's director-general, reportedly told her there is concrete evidence tying her to the leak.

Channel 1 reported last night that Avital was told that an internal investigation found that the document was sent from a fax in her office.

The document in question is a working paper written up by the strategic planning department which outlines some of Israel's positions on final-status matters with the Palestinians.

The paper was recently quoted in Ha'aretz.

Ministry spokesman Aviv Shiron confirmed that an investigation is under way, but would not confirm or deny that Avital is being investigated.

Avital said of the allegations: "It is simply not true."

Sources said that the ministry has put her on unpaid leave and she has hired a lawyer.

See TORAH, Page 4

Mortars hit along northern border

By DAVID RUDGE

Mortar rounds were reported exploding close to the border in Upper Galilee just before midnight, but it was unclear whether any had hit inside Israel.

It appeared that Hizbullah gunmen were trying to hit an IDF outpost. There was also a report of an explosion in the security zone. There were no reports of casualties.

Earlier in the evening, gunmen fired mortars at IDF and South Lebanese Army positions in the Kantara region in the central sector of the zone. There were no casualties reported.

IDF gunners returned fire in both incidents.

In fierce artillery duels on Monday, three soldiers were wounded, two of them seriously.

First printed Torah sold for \$310,000

By HANI SHAPIRO

A copy of the first printed edition of the Torah in Hebrew, which the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York exchanged in a deal valued at \$50,000, was this week sold at auction by Christie's in London for \$310,000.

This is the highest sum ever paid at auction for a Hebrew book.

The gap between the value at which JTS, one of the world's major repositories of Jewish books, disposed of the book and the price for which it was sold reflects, according to the seller, the difference between the way books are viewed in the Jewish and non-Jewish world of book collection.

"Non-Jewish book collectors buy books according to their importance, and Jewish book collectors buy them according to their rarity," said the seller, a dealer who asked to remain unidentified.

The book, printed in Bologna in 1482, is also the first of any part of the Hebrew Bible to be printed, the first to be printed with vowels and cantillation signs, and the first to appear with Targum Onkelos and Rashi's commentary sur-

rounding the text in what is now considered the traditional manner.

The copy had been preserved to JTS by Judge Mayer Sulzberger, whose collection, donated to the institution in 1904, constituted the beginning of its library. It was given to a book dealer for a manuscript relating to mysticism valued, according to the seller, at about \$50,000.

The book is printed on paper, with one other copy, while there are 27 copies of the same edition on vellum. The seller explained that while normally the vellum copy is rarer and more valuable, in this case the copy on paper was printed as a trial run.

The cataloging research for Christie's which illuminated this was carried out by Dr. Adri Offenberger of the Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana of Amsterdam.

"JTS undervalued it, and Christie's did a wonderful job of showing its true value," the seller said, adding that JTS had disposed of its paper edition and retained its vellum edition. However, he added that JTS is not the only one not to

Levy set to rejoin cabinet

Sharon still seeks unity government

By SARAH HONG

David Levy will be reentering the cabinet and his Geshet faction will merge back into the Likud, it was formally decided yesterday, although no written agreement was produced and nothing was signed.

Reactions to Levy's return are mixed, Page 2

Several key points remained unresolved, and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu will have to tackle them upon his return from Europe next week.

It is possible that the deal will be implemented in two phases - first, Levy will become a minister and his faction will reenter the coalition, then later, the merger with the Likud will occur.

This is the toughest issue, since the plan to add 500 Geshet members to the 2,700-member Likud central committee is causing an

uproar in the party.

Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, who was instrumental in bringing Netanyahu and Levy together yet again, meanwhile, continued his unrelenting efforts to bring Labor into the coalition as well.

Netanyahu spent the early hours of yesterday morning in an attempt to produce a finalized agreement before his departure.

But the fact that not all loose ends were tied did not cast doubt on the fact that a deal was struck. Levy called his two other faction members - his brother Maxim and MK Yehuda Lankri - to his office and they decided he should rejoin the government and that Geshet should reenter the Likud.

Levy took great pains to appear relaxed in an interview with Israel Radio. He even had kind words for Netanyahu, though he stressed that "this is no love affair, but a very deliberate and clear decision to embark on a joint path."

He said he had "not yet decided between the Finance and National Infrastructure portfolios. When I

meet with the prime minister upon his return, we shall decide on that matter and on other outstanding issues. We are in no hurry and are not operating with a stopwatch in hand. I wish the prime minister a good and successful journey. Everything will be worked out when he comes back."

The Jerusalem Post has learned that Levy confidante David Appel promised that Levy would bring all five Geshet MKs into the coalition, but in fact his dowsy will consist of only three.

Michael Kleiner, who heads the Land of Israel Front in the Knesset, cheered the deal and declared he would be glad to reenter the Likud, but he will continue to oppose the Wye accord and will not necessarily vote with the government.

David Magen, who suspended his membership in Geshet long ago, said he will not be returning to the Likud and will work for the establishment of a new centrist party.

See GESHET, Page 4

Police probe bugging of Yishai's phone

By MARGOT DUDKOVITCH and LIAT COLLINS

Internal rivalry within Shas is one of the directions being considered by the police after a bug was found on the home telephone of Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Eli Yishai in July.

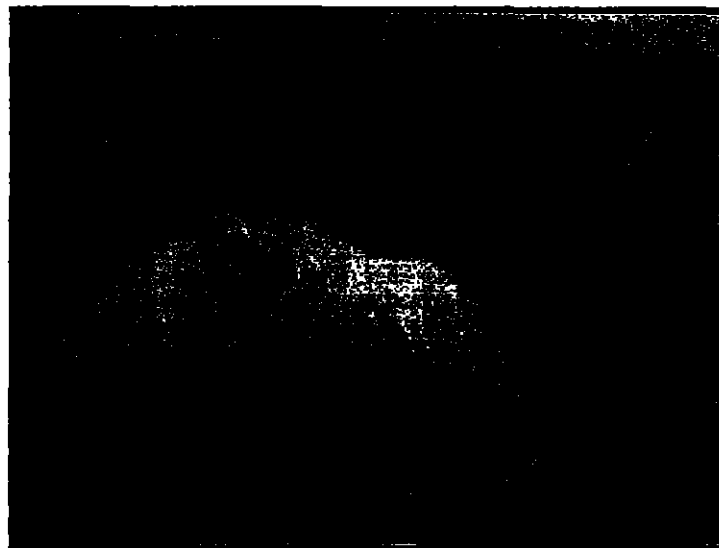
Israel Radio reported that the police attempted to prevent the investigation from becoming public, fearing it may hamper their work.

Later, however, police confirmed the radio report, saying the matter is extremely serious and is being given top priority. According to reports, the device was not sophisticated and could have been installed by a private investigator.

Police were unable to estimate how long the device had been attached to Yishai's phone.

Yishai called the bugging a serious invasion of his privacy, but said he found it hard to believe that anyone in his party would do such a thing. He preferred, he said, not to speculate on who was behind the act.

Yishai told Israel Radio that in July he asked the head of security in his ministry to investigate the strange noises on his telephone line. The security head immediately notified the General



A technician examines the phone junction box at the Jerusalem home of Minister Eli Yishai yesterday. (Flash 90)

Security Service, which found that a listening device had been installed in the telephone cable cabinet of Yishai's Jerusalem home.

Yishai said "it was on a Friday I notified the head of security in my office that there were strange noises on my phone. The following week officials checked the cable box. Returning home late Sunday or Monday night with my

wife, police informed me that my phone was tapped."

For a month, police surveilled Yishai's home hoping to catch the wiretapper. The case was then transferred to the national serious crimes squad, led by Dep.-Cmdr. Moshe Mizrahi, who led the investigation into the wiretapping of Yediot Aharonot and Ma'ariv.

See YISHAI, Page 4

Israeli survivors' delegate sidelined at Holocaust conference

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - The State Department has ejected Moshe Sanbar, the head of the Israeli survivors' organizations, from a prominent panel at the international Holocaust conference in Washington because of pressure from outside, Sanbar said last night, adding that he would not attend next week's event.

Sanbar had been asked in October by the department, which is sponsoring the conference, to address a plenary session, scheduled for Tuesday, on unpaid war-era insurance policies.

The others on the insurance panel are Israel Singer, of the World Jewish Congress (WJC), a representative of the German insurance company Allianz, the state insur-

ance commissioners of New York and North Dakota, and an academic from the University of California.

Without informing Sanbar, the conference organizer then moved him to a smaller, less-prestigious session on the restitution of Jewish communal property.

"Without telling me, this is an insult," Sanbar said.

Sanbar apparently was not replaced on the insurance panel to accommodate a different speaker. The most recent conference agenda, released Tuesday, shows that the other original speakers remain on the schedule.

Sanbar said that after a colleague commented on his assignment, he had called the State Department on Monday and asked the conference organizer if he had been moved - and why.

"He told me there was some interference, and that it would be better if I speak on another panel," Sanbar said.

He would not suggest who had interfered, but there is speculation that it came from the WJC, which has battled Sanbar over the right to be the primary spokesman on questions of Holocaust loot. The WJC has extraordinary access to the State Department because its president, Edgar Bronfman, is a primary financial backer of the Democratic Party.

A State Department spokesman declined to discuss the matter, referring all questions to Sanbar.

More than 40 nations will be attending the conference. In addition to insurance and communal property, the conference is also focusing on Nazi-looted art.



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NEWS

in brief

Mordechai: We'd like nuclear protection sites

Defenses on the home front do not offer protection from a nuclear attack, and the defense establishment has recently begun to look into setting up protection at strategic points around the country, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said last night.

Mordechai emphasized, however, that at present Israel is not under nuclear threat. "I don't think there is any country that has protection against a nuclear threat, and I hope that these kind of weapons are never used," he said in the Knesset in response to a parliamentary query from Labor MK Eitan Cabel (Labor) over Pakistan's nuclear capability.

Nina Gilbert

Defense memo signed with Germany

Israel and Germany yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding on defense research and development. The memorandum was signed in Tel Aviv by Dr. Walther Stutzle, secretary of state at the German Defense Ministry, and Defense Ministry Director-General Ilan Biran. Stutzle, here on a two-day visit, met yesterday with top defense officials and IDF commanders, including Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Elihu.

Arieh O'Sullivan

US shelves plans for Mideast bank venture

The US has mothballed plans to launch the Middle East and North Africa development bank, an institution once billed as a symbol of economic cooperation between Israel and its neighbors, a US official said yesterday.

A multinational launch team has worked out of a Cairo office for more than a year but the main partners - Israel, Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinians - have not signed the charter for the bank, the official said. Without their support from the Middle Eastern partners, the US administration could not persuade the US Congress to make a contribution toward the capital of the bank.

Reuters

Court awards police investigator NIS 100 for libel

Nazareth District Court yesterday awarded NIS 100 damages to Joseph Kraus, former head of police investigations in Haifa, who charged the daily *Yediot Achronot* with libel for reports by its writers Mordechai Gilat, Danny Sadeh and Marcel Zohar. During 1984-85 they reported in a series of articles that he received favors from senior employees of the Haifa municipality to build an extra floor in a house he was building. The judge did not require *Yediot* to pay court costs or lawyer's expenses.

Itim

Shohat: I'll fight against tax changes

MK Avraham Shohat (Labor) yesterday said the opposition in the Knesset Finance Committee would oppose any attempt to change tax laws affecting immigrants. Shohat met with two North American immigrants who are concerned by Treasury-proposed changes to tax legislation following May's announcement of the liberalization of currency exchange. The proposed law calls for an end to the tax-free status of immigrants' overseas assets.

Shohat said he is particularly concerned by changes affecting immigrants, saying that making changes now would be a breach of faith.

David Zev Harris

Mekorot workers lock boss in office

Mekorot workers kept director Doron Grupper holed up in his office yesterday in Tel Aviv for more than six hours. They were protesting the appointment of Shlomo Levine as director-general of Shikma, in place of Shimon Hamu.

Itim

Mofaz: No alternative to security zone

By DAVID RUDGE

"At this moment, we don't have an alternative to remaining in the security zone," Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz said last night, during a visit to wounded soldiers at Haifa's Rambam Hospital, warned that such a move would be a dangerous risk.

"Any alternative that has been suggested, unilateral withdrawal or any other arrangement that does not contain an agreement and does not have another body or organization

that takes responsibility, would be taking an unreasonable risk bordering on a gamble," he said.

And, he added, "as long as we are in the security zone, nobody can promise there won't be casualties."

He noted that Hizbullah has doubled its activities in the past year, although the IDF's successes have continued at a high level and losses are less so far this year than in 1997.

The conditions of the two soldiers being treated in Rambam for serious wounds suffered in Hizbullah's sustained Monday attack slight

improvement. An officer who was lightly wounded in a separate incident on the same day is expected to be released soon.

Meanwhile, UNIFIL is making official inquiries into the reported arrest of a senior Shi'ite cleric by the South Lebanese Army.

"Following a complaint from the Lebanese government to the UN, we have been asked to investigate charges of the abduction of Sheikh Abbas Muhisan Ali Fadlallah," said UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel.

"We have approached the IDF over

the matter through liaison channels, and we are awaiting a response."

According to reports from the security zone, Fadlallah was arrested at the end of last month on suspicion of collaborating with Hizbullah. He allegedly planned to help kidnap an IDF soldier and smuggle him to Beirut in the trunk of his car, which was unlikely to be searched at checkpoints because of his religious status.

Security sources were quoted in *Ha'aretz* as saying that Fadlallah, a distant relative of Hizbullah spiritu-

al leader Sheikh Mohamad Fadlallah, had admitted being a member of Hizbullah.

He allegedly made contact with Sheikh Nabil Kaouk, Hizbullah's leader in south Lebanon, a year ago and has since given the group a map of outposts in the security zone and names of those suspected of cooperating with the SLA.

He also reportedly told Hizbullah activists in his home village, Kila, that he had offered to smuggle weapons into the area and even help in preparing roadside bombs.

Mixed feelings greet Levy's return

By LIAT COLLINS and NINA GILBERT

In the Knesset ridicule and concern greeted the news of David Levy's return to government. Most of the Likud MKs welcomed the idea but several had reservations about creating safe slots in the party for Geshet members.

"This is not even politics, it's a soap opera," said Likud MK Ze'ev (Benny) Begin, who quit the government over the Hebron agreement. "There's marriage and partings, tears, divorce, tears, divorce, blows..." Begin also said that Netanyahu acts according to opinion polls.

"The Likud has turned itself into the tool of Labor's policy," he said. "In this sense it has become unimportant, uninteresting and even in effect irrelevant - dragged along by events and opinion polls."

MK Gideon Ezra (Likud) said, "He [Levy] has something important to say on social issues and we have to relate to that too. His social conscience is also important."

"On the whole, I don't object," said Likud's Naomi Blumenthal. "I think he and his colleagues faithfully represent the public." She did however oppose the idea of safe slots for Geshet members.

Several Likud MKs, including David Re'em, described Levy as "one of our own" with a long history in the Likud.

MK Michael Kleiner, who heads the Land of Israel Front lobby, said he had remained formally a member of Geshet although he had frozen his activities in the party when it was in touch with the Left. "It would be silly for me to then leave it because it returns to the

Likud," he said. "In fact, if it weren't for the Wye agreement I would be very happy about the return to the Likud which was where I grew up." Kleiner is the coalition coordinator in the Knesset Finance Committee and said he is acting to get the national budget passed.

MK Nissan Slomiansky (National Religious Party) tried to downplay the significance of Geshet's contribution to the government.

"Even with Geshet, the government does not have a majority without the National Religious Party," he said.

He predicted that the inclusion of Geshet would only translate into 2 1/2 additional votes. "Geshet was in the government before, and the prime minister naturally wants to expand the coalition."

Slomiansky also said he did not believe Levy's inclusion would increase the likelihood of national unity.

Ephraim Sneh (Labor) said Levy's move would reduce the chances of passing the early elections bill. However, he predicted that it wouldn't solve Netanyahu's coalition troubles.

Ophir Pines-Paz (Labor) said he was very disappointed with Levy "for his lack of willingness to deal with the difficulties in being in the opposition."

Levy, he said, chose an easy solution for the short-term, but he will "pay the full price in the end."

At the same time, he acknowledged that Netanyahu had made a sharp political maneuver by court-levy, which would no doubt help in stabilizing the government.



Arafat in France

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat meets French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin for talks in Paris, where he reaffirmed his goal of declaring an independent state next May.

(Reuters)

Neeman backs unity government

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman yesterday called for a national unity government and suggested he would be prepared to give up his position for it.

"I'm not a 'settler' in this office," said Neeman, speaking to journalists. "I stress that a unity government is good for the people. I have no personal interest."

The minister then welcomed Geshet's prospective re-entry into

the Likud fold.

Neeman said he is prepared to funnel more funds into infrastructure, over which David Levy is expected to have control. The funds could be made available on the condition that the overall 1999 state budget deficit target is not breached.

Neeman rejected early elections, citing the cost and election of a Knesset much like the current one. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's proposal for Levy to be either Finance or National

Infrastructure minister was fully coordinated with Neeman, he said.

Arieh O'Sullivan adds:

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai welcomed Levy back to the cabinet saying, "I think his contribution to the government was vital and I think... his rich experience, his wholehearted wisdom... will [help] toward advancing the important interests of the state of Israel." Mordechai said after an annual memorial held for first Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

The highs (and mostly lows) of the Levy-Netanyahu axis

By HERB KEINON

Some of the highs and lows of a chaotic political relationship between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and once and future minister David Levy

- In 1990, then foreign minister Levy, on his first state visit to the US, dropped his deputy, Netanyahu from the trip, reportedly because he was concerned Netanyahu, with his excellent English, might steal the media spotlight.

- During the Gulf War, Levy canceled a press conference Netanyahu was to hold with foreign journalists.

- In October 1991, Levy refused to go to the Madrid peace conference because then premier Yitzhak Shamir decided to head the delegation, and included Netanyahu in it.

- The months long Levy-Netanyahu feud in the Foreign Ministry ended when Netanyahu requested a transfer to the Prime Minister's Office.

- January 14, 1993, Netanyahu appeared on TV and implied that

Levy was behind an attempt to use an extra-marital affair to blackmail him out of the race for the Likud leadership. Levy demanded the expulsion of Netanyahu from the party if the blackmail charges proved baseless.

- A month later Netanyahu defeated Levy in the Likud leadership primary, and Levy refused to congratulate him or shake his hand. Netanyahu called on his rivals to "put the controversies aside."

- In June 1993, the Justice Ministry closed the file on Bibigat and Levy called on Netanyahu to resign.

- Netanyahu apologized at a Likud convention in November 1994, but was still spurned by Levy.

- In June 1995, after defeating Levy in a procedural vote at the Likud convention, Netanyahu said: "If we do not eradicate factionalism, factionalism will eradicate us." Following this speech, Levy accused Netanyahu of having "unleashed unbridled incitement of the lowest imaginable

form."

- In February 1996, Levy broke off from the Likud and formed Geshet.

- A month later, Netanyahu and Levy put the past behind them. Following Likud's victory in the June, 1996 elections, Netanyahu invited Geshet and Levy into the coalition and appointed Levy Foreign Minister.

- By August, the two were already in deep crisis over who would head the steering committee overseeing the talks with the Palestinians and who would determine the committee's policy.

- The relationship stumbled along until this January when Levy resigned, saying that "nothing on earth" would make him change his mind. He cited lack of movement on the peace process and on the social issues which had been Geshet's main platform.

- In June, Levy was wooed by Netanyahu to rejoin the government as foreign minister. Levy maintained, "We have nothing to look for in the government."

Nimrodi commissioned most celebrated wiretap

In the country's most celebrated wiretapping case, Ofer Nimrodi, chairman of the board of Ma'ariv, was sentenced in July to eight months in jail and a 10-month suspended sentence for wiretapping several senior editors at *Yediot Achronot*. He was also fined NIS 1.1 million.

David Ronen, who was responsible for security at Hachsharot

BACKGROUND

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Hayishuv, the Nimrodi company that owns Ma'ariv, was sentenced to six months of community service, a six-month suspended sentence, and fined of NIS 100,000.

In January, former *Yediot* editor Moshe Vardi received a two-month suspended sentence in connection with the wiretapping of *Yediot* employees suspected of leaking information to Ma'ariv.

Margot Dukkevitch adds: Avi Cohen, former head of police intelligence, said wiretaps are used in business deals and industrial espionage. The devices are inexpensive and can be purchased freely.

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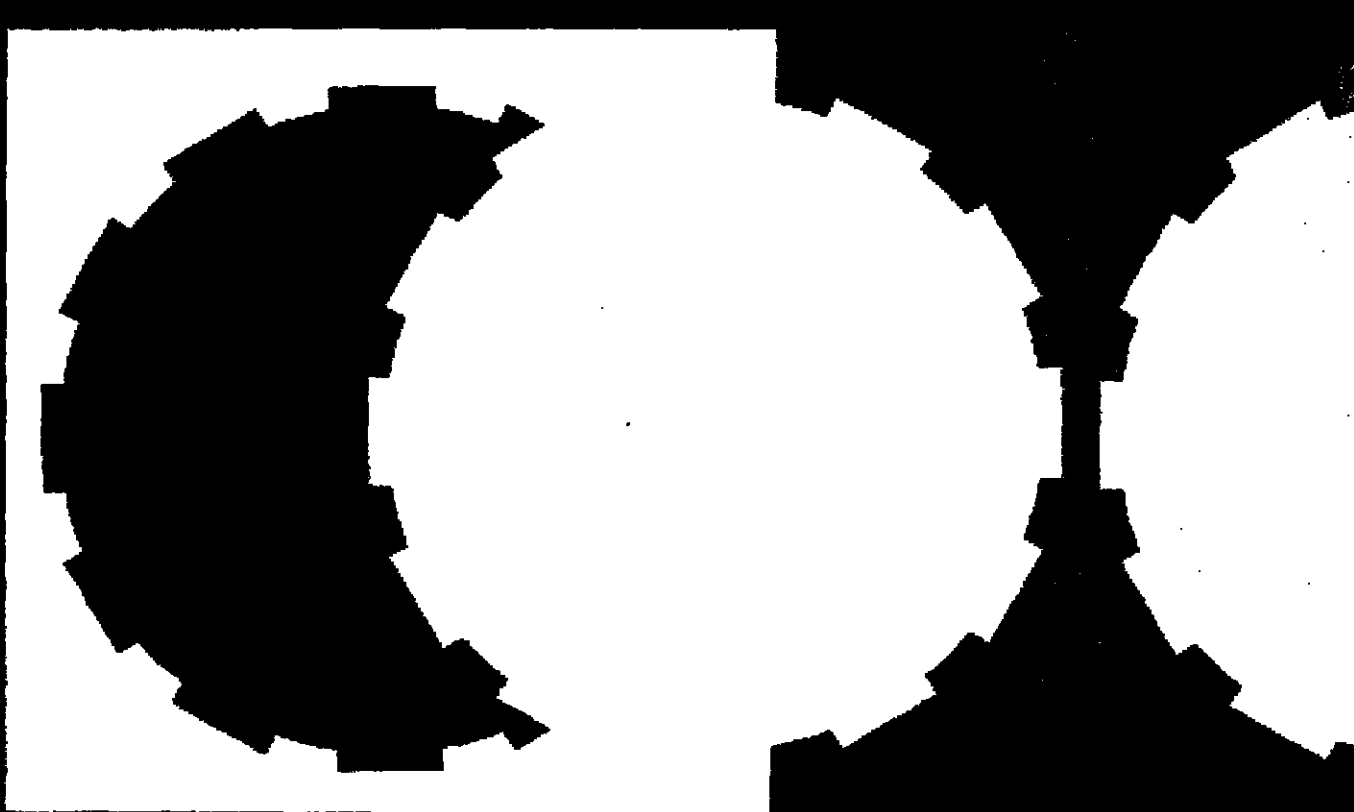
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סדרה מן האמל

PM cancels Swiss visit

By DANNA HARMAN

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delayed his trip to Europe yesterday, leaving Ben-Gurion Airport 10 hours late, and skipping his planned visit to Switzerland.

Netanyahu remained in his Jerusalem office throughout most of the night Tuesday and all day yesterday in an effort to resolve both the student strike and the matter of David Levy's return to the government.

He had been scheduled to give the main address at a high-tech conference in Bern, and meet with Swiss President Flavio Cotti. In addition, meetings had been set up with top banking and business officials.

There has been much talk in recent days over the Swiss' mixed feelings about Netanyahu's visit. The Swiss are reportedly angry with Netanyahu for publicly supporting the manner in which the fight for restitution of Jewish Holocaust assets was handled, saying several statements during the debate were "unnecessary" and "anti-Swiss."

When Netanyahu participated in an awards ceremony last week honoring several of those others involved in the fight, the Swiss Foreign Ministry convened a special meeting to discuss the possibility of uninviting Netanyahu. The Swiss finally expressed irritation over the ceremony, but did not rescind the invitation.

Netanyahu's spokesman Aviv Bushinsky denied that the efforts to lure Levy back into the government and to resolve the student strike provided an excuse for Netanyahu to spurn angry Swiss officials.

"No, the opposite. It was a golden opportunity to again warm up the relations, if they really did cool off," Bushinsky said. He said Netanyahu had informed the Swiss authorities of his change in plans and also sent a letter of apology to Cotti.

"These are two very, very important processes - both the diplomatic issue and also the issue of the students, where there are hunger strikers and a threat to strike the overall economy," he said.

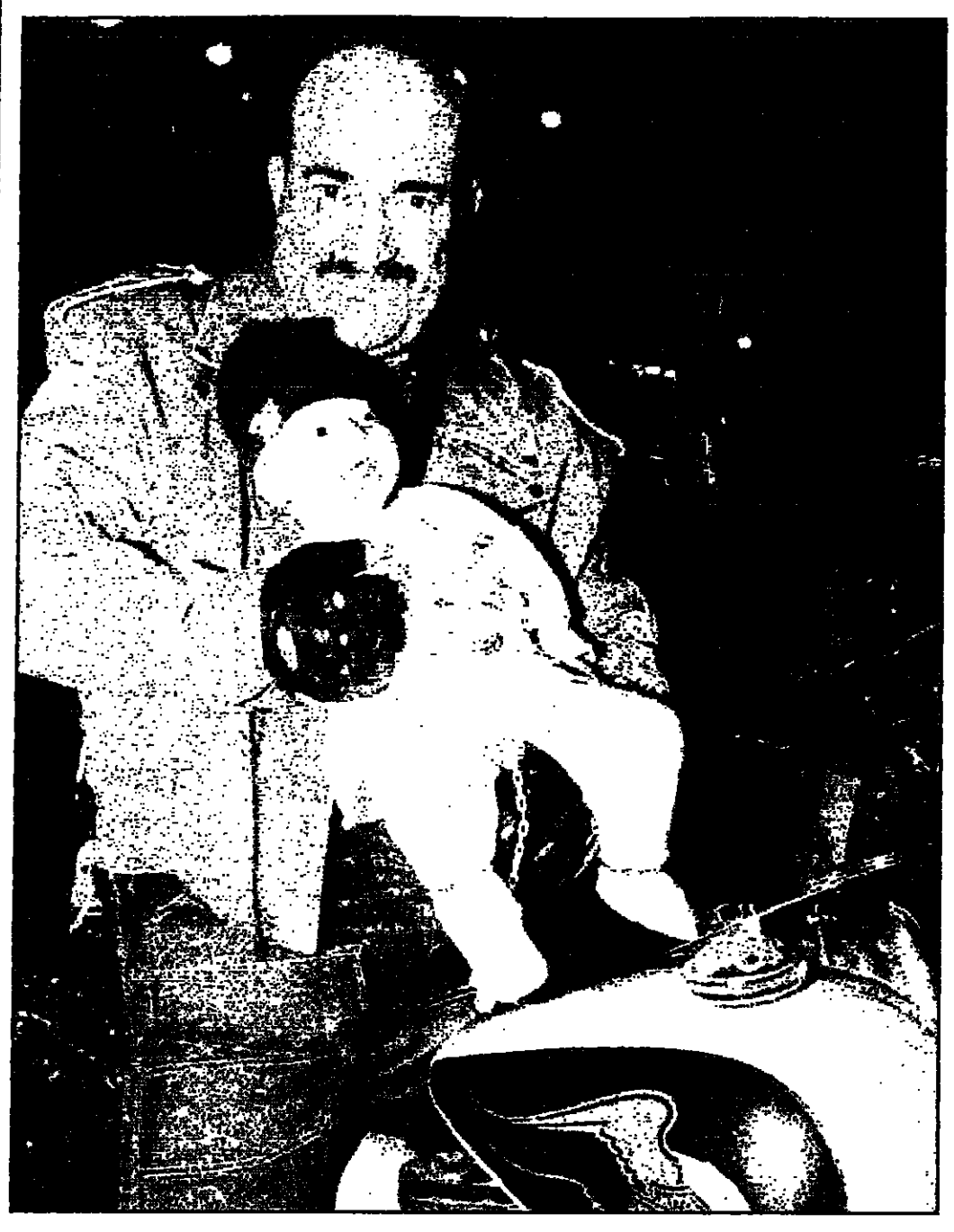
Even before the cancellation was disclosed, the Switzerland-Israel Society, which fosters closer ties between the two countries, said relations were at a low point.

Israeli-Swiss relations also have been hurt by a failed Mossad spy mission in February. Five Mossad agents were caught trying to bug an apartment building in Bern.

One agent, caught with wiretapping equipment, was held until late April and only released after Israel paid some \$2 million in bail. Israel also apologized.

Swiss officials said they expected their cabinet to discuss a new date for Netanyahu's visit later yesterday.

News agencies contributed to this report.



Happy biker baby
Harley Davidson owner Adam Shomer poses yesterday with five-month-old Gili Zilberman, a patient at the Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel in Petah Tikva. Hundreds of Harley owners visited the children and gave them gifts as part of their annual charity ride.

Sweden puts out booklet to teach about Holocaust

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES - In the spring of last year, a Swedish survey found that one-third of the country's teenagers were not sure that the Holocaust had actually happened.

The finding deeply disturbed Prime Minister Goran Persson.

Only two months after the survey, he launched a wide-ranging Living History Project to drive home the horrors and lessons of the Holocaust to Sweden's nine million citizens, and particularly to the post-war generations.

Within a span of one year, the project has spawned the international Stockholm Meeting on the Holocaust, plans for the establishment of a research center at the 500-year old Uppsala University, teacher training programs, museum exhibits, a web site, and parliamentary visits to concentration camps.

But perhaps the project's most effective tool for Holocaust education has been the compilation and dissemination of a 100-page booklet, "Tell ye your children," Swedish Trade Minister Leif Pagrotsky said at a luncheon hosted by the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

The booklet, a graphic and unvarnished depiction of the Nazi era and its horrors, was offered free to all Swedes who requested it in writing or by e-mail.

Authors Stephane Bruchfeld and ex-Californian Paul Levine counted on 100,000 requests, tops. Within a few months, the printing office was deluged by 770,000 requests.

The booklet acknowledges that Sweden, like the rest of the Western democracies, all but shut its doors to Jewish refugees between 1933 and 1939, but makes no mention of its economic collaboration with Germany during the war.

Settlers continue to occupy hilltops

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Settlers played cat and mouse with security forces yesterday as they attempted to establish facts on the ground on hilltops west of Kedumim.

Meanwhile, the police ordered construction on a road leading to the new neighborhood Amona in Ofra stopped, saying it was illegal.

Two workers, who allegedly ignored orders to stop work, were held for questioning.

Several hours later, police were forced to reverse themselves, after documents showed that the work was done with the full cooperation of the Civil Administration. Work was allowed to continue and the two workers were released.

Led by Kedumim local council head Daniella Weiss, some 100 settlers returned to the hilltop known as Nahal Ta'anim for the fifth time in a week shortly after midnight Tuesday.

The settlers, who remained overnight, managed to build a house with a roof and claimed that the Begin administration had approved the building of a new neighborhood there.

The settlers left yesterday morning when the IDF declared the site a closed military zone. They then moved to another hilltop and began building a stone house there, but left at nightfall at the army's request.

A military check post marking

the start of safe passage route between the West Bank and Gaza was erected yesterday. Israel and the Palestinians still need to settle a few minor points, but expect to sign a protocol for operating the route next week, said Palestinian negotiator Abdel Razek Yehiyeh.

Under the Wye accord, the safe

passage was to open four weeks after the protocol was signed.

Under the new rules, Israel will issue permits valid for a year to those wishing to use the safe passage.

Cars are permitted, but require separate stickers. Israel has the right to turn down requests by those considered a security risk.

Yehiyeh said the land route would stay open during closures.

The new land route, using existing roads, begins at Tarkumiya, cuts westward, and swerves south to Gaza just before Ashkelon.

A second safe passage route planned would link Ramallah with Gaza.

AP contributed to this report.

Israeli, Palestinian women observe anti-violence day

By ESTHER HECHT

Palestinian and Israeli women marked International Day Against Violence Against Women by meeting in Ramallah to learn from each other's experiences in trade unions.

"Today there is a special feeling in our meeting with Israeli women. Despite the differences between us there is a common basis - the fact that we are women and daughters," said Amal Khreisheh, head of the Palestinian Working Women Society.

When Hedva Almog, national chairman of Na'amat, the working women's organization, mentioned her former career as Women's Corps commander, one of the Palestinian women commented, "Maybe [when she was in the army] I threw a stone at

her. Now we are sitting here in peace."

For all the expressions of goodwill, the first day of the symposium found the 35 women sticking to their own kind. Even during the lunchtime break the Israeli women were huddled over their kosher meals while the Palestinian women shared their nonkosher food in a separate room.

Toward the end of the day, a tour of Ramallah gave the women a chance to see the city-wide construction, as well as the dismal conditions in the refugee camps and the abrasive proximity of Israeli and Palestinian enclaves.

The two-day symposium was sponsored by Na'amat and the Ramallah-based Democracy and Workers' Rights Center, under the auspices of FAFO, the

Norwegian social science institute that helped bring Israel and the PLO together for the Oslo talks.

The Na'amat participants were all from the Karmiel area.

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Any citizen, permanent resident, public body, enterprise, institution or organization, who has not previously received the citation may be a candidate.

Any citizen or public body may propose his candidacy or that of anyone else for the citation. Those who wish to do so should apply for forms and additional information to:

The National Council for Voluntarism in Israel
P.O.Box 20428, Tel Aviv 67012
Tel: 03-5614144, Fax: 03-5613343

The last date for submission of names of proposed candidates is January 31, 1999 (14 Shvat, 5759)

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By MICHAL YUDELMAN

The victory took even Saguy by surprise, as his campaign strategists thought Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's withdrawing support, then returning it at the last moment, had damaged Saguy's chances.

public, Liku spokeswoman Rolf Eckstein said.

Yassin Yassin
Beza'el Tasseb
Shaul Shamai
Mohammed Yassin Zinyat
Kassem Ali
Yehoshna Saguy
Rabah Asdi
Eliahu Radi
Yael German
Jabar Jabar
Mohammed Abu Ful
Pashamf Shochon
Wasal Taha
Hassan Achmana
Nabihon Kashtush
Yitzhak Wald
Shmuel Ben-Tovim
Elitan Belinkov
Albert Erez
Assid Araida
Salomon Cohen
Eliahu Barda
Moshe Schecter
Omar Matar
Jirnis Khoury
Yigal Yosef
Yosef Oz
Eli Moyal
Afu Fawer
Mussa Abu Rumi
Tal Arye
Shbarit Abu Rnookn
Uzi Meir

Two girls hold up memorial placards for women murdered in family disputes at a demonstration yesterday in Jerusalem's Kikar Menora marking International Day Against Violence Against Women. Several hundred men and women participated in the protest. Police said that so far this year some 11,000 women have appealed for help following sexual assaults. (Brian Bender)

The US is hopeful the donor conference will accelerate private sector investment in the territories, since "the more they see an international effort ... that is serious, the more you're going to create the kind of climate" for deals, one official said.

Drugs that slow the development of Alzheimer's disease symptoms must be included in the basket of health services, said Labor and Social Affairs Committee chairman Maxim Levy yesterday. He explained that such drugs, while not constituting a cure, improve the quality of life of victims of the fatal disease and of their caregivers. There are 50,000 patients with this kind of dementia in the country.

هكذا من الراحين

1

מסדא מן الاصل

Bitter reaction to Holocaust 'dirty list'

By DAVID ZEY HARRIS and HAIM SHAPIRO

Some of the organizations mentioned on Israel's Holocaust "dirty list" reacted angrily to the suggestion they have failed to open their archives to full public scrutiny.

Next week, Bobby Brown, the prime minister's adviser on Diaspora affairs, will publicize what he calls "a dirty list" of institutions during the US State Department Conference on Holocaust Era Assets, which begins in Washington on Sunday.

Among those included on the list are the Czech Republic's federal state archive and the country's Jewish museum, the *Der Stuermer* archives at Nuremberg in Germany, the Vatican, the commission investigating crimes against the Polish nation and the Polish state archives, the national archive of Russia, KGB and other military archives at Podolsk, the British MI-5 secret service archive and that of the custodian of enemy property, Italian-based insurer Assicurazioni Generali, and other private and corporate archives, particularly of German industry, insurance companies, churches, and hospitals.

Msgr. Eugene Nugent, secretary to the papal nuncio, who is abroad, said he preferred not to comment on a list which has not yet been formally published. However, he added he is concerned that the report singled out the entire Vatican state for condemnation, while all the others listed were individual institutions or archives. Nugent said that the Vatican had already made public all the archival material on how the Church had helped the Jews during the Holocaust. What has not been made public, he said, are personal papers, which will not be published until the time limit has expired.

The British Home Office yesterday denied that MI-5 documentation contains links to the Holocaust. "MI-5 is currently going through its archive, but to the best of our knowledge there is no information about the Holocaust," said a ministry spokesman. Generali, currently facing a lawsuit over its alleged failure to pay

on policies of Holocaust victims, expressed anger at being placed on the list. It issued a statement yesterday which made several points:

- A list of all insured in East and Central Europe in the 25 years before the war has been submitted by Generali to Yad Vashem.

- Generali established and information center for archive searches for interested parties.

- Generali is not concealing property belonging to Holocaust victims.

- The company condemned Brown for publishing his list in the media and said this will "undermine" the frank and open discussions set for Washington.

- Concerning the names the company holds, it pointed out that it includes both Jews and non-Jews who were not necessarily victims of the Holocaust. "An unregulated publication of all names may lead to a flux of unwarranted queries, the processing of which may heavily burden and slow down the identification and examination of genuine claims," read the statement.

The company concludes that

Brown's going public with this list is inconsistent with his position as a member of the international insurance commission, currently investigating Holocaust issues.

Brown is the chairman of the commission's subcommittee on publication. This "may be regarded as nothing but an attempt at deplorable intimidation."

Brown, meanwhile, has written to MK Avraham Herschson, chairman of the Israeli delegation to Washington, asking that he join in publishing the list. Brown is calling on each institution to open its files "so that we may learn why civilized society failed in its basic commitment to ensure the safety, lives, liberty, and property of our people."

Danna Harman adds: Brown said that many institutions have agreed to open up their Holocaust archives since a letter he wrote urging greater cooperation on this matter was published in *The Jerusalem Post*.

"There has been tremendous flow of information since the names of the problematic institutions were published," said Brown.

Foreign Ministry officials said that Poland, for example, had been very cooperative and had opened its archives following publication of the request.

Brown denied reports that he was bringing with him a "dirty list." Rather, he said, a request "on moral grounds" had been made and those "problematic institutions" had been noted "to encourage them to meet their public responsibilities."

"We cannot give orders, nor do we intend to take any sort of action against them," said Brown. "All we can do is make a request on moral basis that the archives be opened. That is our aim - to make all information on the Holocaust public."

Brown refused to respond to the personal attacks made against him by Avraham Foxman, director of the Anti-Defamation League, who said yesterday that "engaging in blacklists is unacceptable," and that the "whole issue is becoming a football for people's ego needs."

Foxman has himself often said that Holocaust-related issues not concerning money should be dealt with immediately.

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MKs refuse to accept Miller's apology

By LIAT COLLINS

Although Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Haim Miller (United Torah Judaism) did not appear at yesterday's meeting of the Knesset Absorption Committee which discussed his comments against Russian immigrants, he did send a letter of apology, saying his words had been taken out of context and he had not meant to offend anyone.

The written apology did not go down well, however, because the journalist who had interviewed Miller for the local weekly *Yerushalayim* produced a tape of Miller saying, "The immigrants are destroying the country. They are bringing assimilation. They brought corruption and pork here, we don't know who's Jewish and who isn't."

Yisrael Ba'aliya's Yuri Stern demanded Miller be prosecuted. "A thousand apologies won't help - he must be brought to trial," he said.

UTJ's Avraham Ravitz and Avraham Lazerson both criticized Miller and distanced themselves from him.

"Haim Miller's statements are sacrilege. This man does not represent the feeling, atmosphere, or perspective of the hardi public regarding new immigrants. We love the new immigrants and want them to be absorbed. I, as an elected representative of United Torah Judaism, denounce, condemn, and express my shock [at Miller's comments]," said Ravitz.

Committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal said Miller should suspend himself from any public position until the matter has been investigated and if he refuses, Mayor



Demonstrators in Jerusalem's Zion Square yesterday call for Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Haim Miller's ouster for his disparaging comments against immigrants.

Ehud Olmert should suspend him. She said hardi leaders should denounce Miller's statements to prevent a deep rift between secular and hardi and between immigrants and veteran Israelis.

Ophir Pines (Labor) also called on Olmert to take action against Miller or risk being seen as supporting his opinions. "I call on the parties which ran in the Jerusalem [municipal elections] to inform Olmert that if Miller receives any official position, they won't join the

coalition," he said. Zvi Weinberg (Yisrael Ba'aliya) called on the GUR Rebbe to remove Miller from any public function.

Larissa Gerstein, a member of the Jerusalem City Council, noted that Miller holds the council's portfolio for hardi education.

Trial starts for Canadian who lied about Nazi past

WINDSOR, Ontario (AP) - Federal prosecutors launched opening arguments Tuesday in attempt to have the Canadian citizenship of retired auto worker Michael Baumgartner revoked, charging he lied to immigration officials about his past as a Nazi concentration camp guard.

Prosecutor Harley Nott said the case will show Hungarian national Baumgartner, 74, of Windsor arrived illegally in Montreal in May 1953.

"Canada would never have allowed Michael Baumgartner into this country had he told the truth about what he did in the war," Nott said. The federal case is expected to last at least three weeks.

Prosecutors claim Baumgartner joined the Waffen SS at age 18 in 1942.

He served as a guard at Stutthof concentration camp near Berlin - where 65,000 prisoners died - or Sachsenhausen near Danzig - where 50,000 perished. Baumgartner denies he was at the camps.

Striving for better relations

Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles, flanked by Rabbi Lawrence Goldmark (right) and Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson, addresses the Board of Rabbis of Southern California on Tuesday. He described efforts to eliminate "vestiges of anti-Judaism and anti-Jew" from Catholic teaching and preaching, and said the Church will expand Holocaust studies in its schools as part of an effort to improve relations with Jews. (AP)

Conference to focus on quality control

By JUDY SIEGEL

Numerous sectors in society excel in the quality of their work, but others lag behind, said Michael Dayan, who will chair the 12th International Conference of the Israel Society for Quality Control (ISQC), to be held next week at the Jerusalem International Convention Center.

Over 3,000 participants from 30 countries will attend the conference from December 1 through 3 and hear lectures on improving quality in a wide variety of subjects, from health services, construction, and education to government service and high-tech.

Dayan, a former OC Ordnance Corps who now works as managing director of a private company, said he decided to work as an unpaid volunteer to organize the conference because of its importance as serving as a model for high-quality work.

The themes of the gathering, which will be attended by 300 foreign experts, are "50 Years of Quality in the State of Israel" and "Technology as a Spur to Excellence."

An accompanying exhibition will display the wares of participating companies, while an "experts' corner" will be set up for disseminating information and holding meetings with potential customers.

Some of the biggest waste is in construction, health care, and the public service, he said. While some parts of the public and private sector have not yet achieved high quality, Dayan said that incentives can promote excellence. "When a company or organization does well, the worker gains too," he said.

Law committee postpones vote on Golan bill

By LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset Law Committee yesterday postponed a vote which could ready the so-called Golan Heights bill for first reading. The deferral came largely because it was discovered that without legislation determining the conditions for a public referendum, the bill would be inoperable and would not have a majority.

The bill, initiated by Third Way whip Yehuda Harel, calls for any territorial concession to be approved by at least 61 MKs and in a public referendum.

Committee chairman Hanan Porat (National Religious Party) said the committee should work on a basic law on plebiscites.

"It is necessary to take the arguments from the Knesset - where matters are decided on the strength of one vote and a Mitsubishi - to the public," said Porat.

He was referring to former MK Alex Goldfarb, whose support of

the Oslo 2 Accord in the last Knesset was popularly attributed to be because of the benefits he received as deputy housing minister.

Harel said that even a majority of four votes are not enough on matters concerning territorial concessions.

The Third Way's Alex Lubotzky favors the plebiscite option against the background to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. "We reached this low because

there were those who thought the Knesset does not reflect the views of the people," he said.

Deputy Attorney-General Yehoshua Schoffman said the government is preparing legislation under which all diplomatic accords would require Knesset approval.

He said that if there is a basic law on plebiscites, it could be determined that it would relate to only specific subjects such as the country's borders.

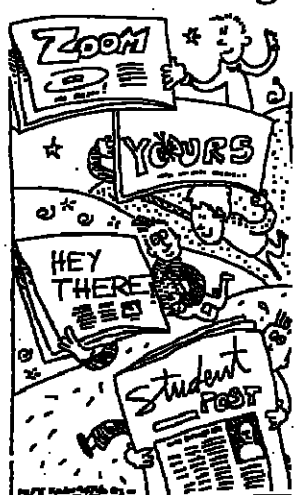
Labor whip Elie Goldschmidt said such a law would stop complaints that fateful decisions are being determined by Arab MKs.

Yossi Beilin (Labor) said he was concerned that public referendums would be used for every issue. He used the opportunity to repeat his call for the abolition of the direct election system.

United Torah Judaism's Avraham Lazerson repeated his party's objections to any basic laws.

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12/98/05

Sound familiar?

European states reluctant to stand up to Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria or international terrorists are bashing a non-Christian, democratic, eastern Mediterranean nation as the real menace to justice and international peace.

No, it's not Israel this week. But the European treatment of Turkey is not only disgraceful, it has certain parallels with Israeli experience. After all, Jews and Turks were Europe's two outsider peoples, and often we are still treated that way.

Earlier this year, Turkey put heavy pressure on Syria to expel Abdullah Ocalan, leader of the left-wing, terrorist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK). Syria was intimidated — in no small part thanks to Turkey's strong alliance with Israel — and expelled Ocalan. Deprived of his Damascus safe haven, Ocalan could no longer function. Within a few days he was captured in Italy. But the Italians explained they could not honor Turkey's extradition demand since their law forbids sending a prisoner to a country where he might be executed.

Italy's hands are tied. Still, what would Italy have done if there was no such provision, or Turkey had agreed to waive the death penalty in Ocalan's case? After all, Italy did everything possible to avoid prosecuting the Achille Lauro hijackers and allowed their chief to leave the country. Recently, one of those killers walked away while on leave from an Italian jail.

In short, as far as terrorism against Israel is concerned, the real motive of Italy's rulers is a combination of appeasement — to avoid attacks on itself — and admiration of terrorists as freedom fighters.

Ocalan and the PKK are about as worthy of such treatment as Abu Nidal, the PLO of past decades, Cambodia's genocidal revolutionaries, and Peru's Shining Path movement. Relatively few Kurds in Turkey support him. Whatever the Kurds' grievances in Turkey, Ocalan's war — in which 30,000 people have died — has made their lives worse and set back any chance for reforms. The PKK has murdered in large numbers both ethnic Turks and Kurds who don't support it. Even today, Ocalan has no intention of reaching any compromise short of dismembering Turkey.

Rather than helping Turkey seek some solution, Italy's government has lashed out against the Turkish government, saying that if only they would behave properly regarding human rights and reach an agreement with the Kurds, the European Union (EU) might just let Turkey join. In other words, first you refuse to help the victim of terrorist assault, then you insult him.

The Italian argument is also fundamentally dishonest. For many years, the main political reason for the EU's refusal to admit Turkey was a Greek veto, and not concerns over Kurdish or human-rights issues. The main cause of rejection was European fear at the price tag for subsidizing such a poor, populous country and trade concerns.

One cannot prove it, of course, but perhaps the fact that Turks are neither Christian, Western, nor white enough in European eyes may play some role here. Consider also that Turkey, which played such a key role in the coalition victory against Iraq in 1991, suffered billions of dollars in losses due to pipeline closures and loss of trade thereafter. Despite promises at the time, it received no special compensation. Turkey was humiliated when, after having waited patiently for years, the EU put ex-Soviet bloc countries and Cyprus ahead of it in the queue.

The main basis of the Israel-Turkish alliance may well be strategic. Having the same people trying to kill you is a great incentive to cooperate. But that is not its only basis. Turkey is a large, strong, economically progressive, and democratic country.

There are important economic, cultural, as well as psychological and intellectual elements to our cooperation. This alliance frightens those who would do us harm, all the better. Unfortunately, some Greek governments in the past were hostile to Israel and eager to work with Syria long before any Israel-Turkey relationship existed.

Does anyone really believe that Israel's problems with the Arab world are caused by its alignment with Turkey? And is it so hard to understand that this coalition contributes both to regional stability and to our mutual ability to defend ourselves?

The Region



Barry Rubin

Reno clears Gore's path to the White House

The attorney general's decision not to investigate Al Gore for alleged fund-raising abuses is sure to deter many presidential hopefuls from challenging the vice president.

By ALAN ELSNER

Attorney General Janet Reno's decision not to appoint a special counsel to investigate Al Gore will discourage other Democrats from challenging the vice president for his party's White House nomination.

Political analysts contacted by Reuters were unanimous in saying Reno's decision was a big boost for Gore's presidential hopes in 2000.

"This is the most important day of Gore's political career since he was chosen as President Clinton's running mate," said American University historian Allan Lichtman.

"Gore is now 90 percent home in his quest for the Democratic nomination in 2000. I don't see any other Democrat with the personality or the money or the issues to beat him."

Reno had appointed a special task force to determine if she should appoint an outside investigator to probe whether Gore lied to FBI investigators looking into alleged political fund-raising abuses in 1996. "I have found that there are no reasonable grounds for further investigation," Reno said in a written statement.

The Gore case arose out of two interviews during a Justice Department investigation of 45 fund-raising calls he made from his office before the 1996 election.

Half a dozen Democrats are considering challenging Gore for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2000. They include: Nebraska Sen. Bob Kerrey,



While US Vice President Al Gore called for the need for reform during his visit to Malaysia last week, back home is that he himself has been the target of accusations of abuse. Gore's fund-raising activities in 1996 are still likely to be an embarrassment that Republicans will use against him in 2000.

Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley, House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt, civil rights leader Jesse Jackson and Minnesota Sen. Paul Wellstone.

Of the six, only Wellstone seems committed to running. The others were biding their time, waiting for the Reno decision.

"Today's decision by Reno will be crucial for those who had

hoped to challenge Gore. It's now much less likely he will face a strong challenge," said University of Pennsylvania political scientist Mark Rozell.

LACK of a strong challenger will allow Gore to unite the party behind him and save his resources to attack the Republican nominee.

In Gephardt's case, this month's congressional elections, when

Democrats unexpectedly picked up five seats in the House of Representatives, had already made it less likely he would run for president since he is now within reach of becoming House Speaker in 2000.

Gore has several large advantages over his potential rivals in the battle for the Democratic nomination. Anointed as Clinton's chosen successor, he will have the

most money and name recognition as well as the support of the Democratic party machine in most states.

Even if Wellstone runs on the liberal wing of the party, that may help Gore position himself as a centrist.

"Wellstone helps Gore occupy the political center, which is where he will need to be with the faces the Republican nominee in the general election," said John Geer, a political scientist at Vanderbilt University in Gore's home state of Tennessee.

Apart from Jackson, whose last run for the presidency was in 1988, none of the other potential Democratic candidates has developed issues which distinguish them clearly from Gore.

The nomination battle in 2000 is likely to be over very quickly since many states including California, have moved up their primaries to early March.

That means the only real chance of tripping up Gore lies in beating him in the states of Iowa and New Hampshire, where the first round of votes of the campaign will take place. After the New Hampshire primary in late February of 2000, the candidate with the most money and the best organization is likely to steamroll the rest of the field.

Gore's fund-raising activities in 1996 are still likely to be an embarrassment that Republicans will use against him in 2000. He was filmed at a campaign event at a Buddhist temple where campaign donations were illegally solicited and collected.

Gore said he had not known the event was a fundraiser. (Reuters)

The Germans are coming to America

German firms, frustrated over soaring labor costs and tax burdens are voting with their feet.

By WILLIAM DROZDAK

With a speed that is causing some alarm as well as amazement, a zealous army of Germany's leading banks and businesses is accelerating an extraordinary invasion of North America.

Deutsche Bank AG's looming \$9 billion acquisition of Bankers Trust Corp. is just the latest example of expanding business ambitions that are driving some of Germany's flagships enterprises to flee their homeland in pursuit of what they perceive as bigger and better opportunities in the United States.

Bankers Trust and Deutsche Bank — Germany's largest bank — formally acknowledged this week that the two are in advanced negotiations regarding a takeover of Bankers Trust at \$93 per share, a deal that would create the world's largest financial-services firm as measured by assets. Boards from both companies are expected to

vote on the merger Sunday.

Faced with some of the world's highest labor costs and heaviest taxes, many German firms have become disillusioned with prospects at home and are voting with their feet. Their quest for cost-cutting efficiency have prompted a remarkable rush for the exits as German bankers and business leaders seek to escape what they describe as an inhospitable domestic climate for growth and profits.

For a growing array of German companies, the most attractive place to settle is the United States. Daimler Benz AG's marriage with Chrysler Corp., the third-largest US automaker, joined the automobile industry earlier this year. Daimler's chief executive, Juergen Schrempp, recently hinted his company's headquarters may move from Stuttgart to New York within two years — a departure that would deliver a profound psychological blow to Germany.

Bertelsmann AG, the German media giant based in the small northern town of Guetersloh, has transformed itself into the world's largest publisher of English-language books by purchasing Random House for an estimated \$1.4 billion. Its chief executive, Thomas Middelhoff, has decreed that the company's working language will soon switch from German to English.

For Deutsche Bank, the purchase of the troubled Bankers Trust offers a way for its chairman, Rolf Breuer, to realize a long-standing dream of joining the hierarchy of global investment banks.

By creating the world's largest financial-services group, with more than \$800 billion in assets, Breuer believes that Deutsche Bank would quickly become a powerful global force, with influence extending far beyond Germany and Europe.

"Whether you are talking about Daimler or Bertelsmann or Deutsche Bank, the approach in

the past has been too confined to national or European markets," said Norbert Walter, Deutsche Bank's chief economist. "The key to meeting future challenges for all of us is to go global as quickly as possible."

THE driving force behind these moves is the realization that leading German companies need to upgrade their presence in North America if they hope to compete effectively on a global scale. But their flight to America also reflects disillusionment about business prospects in Germany, where frustrations over soaring labor costs and enormous tax burdens have been compounded by dismay with the economic policies of the new Social Democratic-Green government led by Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

While Schroeder insists he is well disposed toward business, the tax overhaul he recently unveiled calls for eliminating many of the loopholes and tax breaks that were cherished by Germany's banking and business worlds. The federation of German employers estimates that industry will wind up having to pay an extra \$20 billion in taxes as a result of Schroeder's proposal.

Several leading companies have already indicated that they will escalate their investments beyond Germany's frontiers. The electronics giant Siemens AG, whose products have become household names in Germany, now has more than half of its employees abroad.

Chemical and pharmaceutical firms such as Hoechst AG and Bayer AG are dramatically stepping up activities in the United States.

Following Deutsche Bank's lead, the country's second-largest financial group, Dresdner Bank AG, says it will soon start listing its shares on the New York Stock Exchange and is searching among US investment banks for a possible merger partner.

The rush toward America reflects what economist Arnulf Baring laments as a protracted failure within Germany to adapt to the revolution in global markets and information technologies.

While Germany still remains the world's third-largest economy, with an impressive trade surplus built up by a powerful coterie of industrial exporters, Baring says the country remains perilously dependent on traditional manufacturing. He believes Germany may

soon evolve into an "industrial museum" with a reputation only for the quality of its automobiles and machine tools.

FOR those German companies making the leap toward North America, there are considerable cultural hurdles that must be overcome in order to succeed. Many European companies are highly centralized and tend to refer almost all key decisions back to headquarters. "The failure to act local while thinking global can ruin even the most promising foreign ventures," Bertelsmann's board chairman, Mark Woessner, said in an interview earlier this year.

Unlike Bertelsmann, Deutsche Bank does not have a sterling reputation for integrating its foreign investments. It has experienced serious difficulties trying to absorb the British merchant bank Morgan Grenfell after taking it over in 1989.

Deutsche Bank and Bankers Trust had to speed up consideration of the deal after word that serious talks were going on began to leak out Friday and over the weekend. One executive familiar with the talks said both banks decided that, if a deal is struck, it would not be made public on Thanksgiving because it would be a public-relations mistake to announce on a national holiday that a foreign bank was buying a venerable US banking company.

Several analysts said the merger would be a good fit, though they emphasized that both banks still have their work cut out for them in the increasingly competitive world of investment and commercial banking.

"This is a good investment for Deutsche Bank because it expands their presence in investment banking in the United States, but it doesn't solve all their goals because Bankers Trust still is not the top tier," said Ron Mandel, banking analyst at Sanford C. Bernstein & Co. in New York.

Some other investment-banking executives wonder whether the two companies will mesh culturally, noting that Deutsche Bank is very bureaucratic while Bankers Trust is run in a more entrepreneurial spirit.

While Deutsche Bank has promised considerable autonomy to Bankers Trust, top executives at its Frankfurt headquarters have been reluctant in the past to delegate authority.

(The Washington Post)

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Turkish gov't falls over corruption

By HARMONIE TOROS

ANKARA (AP) — Turkey's government collapsed yesterday, losing a confidence vote in parliament over a corruption scandal that tainted Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz with allegations of mob ties.

This could push Turkey toward another crisis — between forces that want strong ties with the West and pro-Islamic supporters.

Yilmaz's opponents carried a 314-214 margin in the 550-seat parliament — well beyond the threshold needed to sink Turkey's fourth government since 1995.

Yilmaz has been accused of ties with organized crime and rigging the privatization of a state-run bank by securing loans for a businessman linked to a mafia boss. Yilmaz has

denied any links to criminal gangs. "I believe that it will be the people who will very soon make the real judgment about our government," Yilmaz told parliament.

The political scene was thrown wide open by the parliament action. No single political bloc is strong enough to form a new governing coalition on its own. Secular-minded parties will likely try to set aside their differences and cobble together a parliament majority that can lead until early general elections in April.

But failure could open the way for a return of the Islamic party, now called Virtue, which supports bringing stricter Moslem codes and traditions to mostly secular Turkey.

Although Virtue has the largest number of seats in parliament, it



Turkish PM Mesut Yilmaz (AP)

faces opposition from Turkey's extremely powerful military. The nation's first government led by a pro-Islamic party fell apart last year under pressure from the armed

forces, which sees itself as the guardians of Turkey's secular principles. The Welfare party was then outlawed and forced to regroup under new leaders and a new name.

The political reshuffling comes at a delicate time.

Turkey is waging an uphill fight for the extradition of Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan, who is seeking political asylum in Italy.

Delays in forming a new government could distract Turkish leaders from their goal of bringing Ocalan to justice in Turkey.

Nearly 37,000 people have been killed in the 14-year battle between Turkish forces and Kurdish rebels seeking autonomy in southeastern Turkey.

Parties have 45 days to present a new governing coalition. If they

fail, it will be up to the president to set up a caretaker government to lead the country to elections.

Even following the normal rules poses complications in Turkey's volatile political climate.

Traditionally, the job of forming a new government goes to the head of parliament's largest party — now Recai Kutan of the Virtue Party.

President Suleyman Demirel, however, may seek to avoid a confrontation with the military and pick someone from Turkey's deeply divided secular parties.

The first signs of a possible deal to exclude Virtue came Monday, when Yilmaz and his longtime rival, former prime minister Tansu Ciller, had their parties spare each other from corruption probes in parliament.

Kevorkian charged with first-degree murder in Michigan

By JIM SHUR

PONTIAC, Michigan (AP) — Dr. Jack Kevorkian was charged yesterday with first-degree murder for euthanizing a terminally ill man whose death was shown on national television.

After receiving a tape of the death from CBS-TV, Oakland County Prosecutor David Gorycyca announced he had issued a warrant charging Kevorkian with first-degree premeditated murder, criminal assistance to a suicide and delivery of a controlled substance.

If convicted of the murder charge, Kevorkian could be sentenced to life in prison.

"I didn't give Mr. Kevorkian anything," Gorycyca told reporters. "He brought it upon himself. I am following the law as I am required to do."

Thomas Youk, who suffered from a degenerative muscular disease, was seen on the tape seeking Kevorkian's help in dying.

Portions of the tape were aired Sunday by CBS' popular news program, 60 Minutes.

"A review of the tapes involving Mr. Youk and Kevorkian present sufficient facts and probable cause to support charges of assisted suicide," Gorycyca said. "Notwithstanding Mr. Youk's consent, consent is not a viable defense in taking the life of another, even under the most controlled environment."

Kevorkian is believed to have injected Youk with a fatal dose of potassium chloride at the 52-year-old man's Michigan home on September 17. Three weeks earlier, Michigan's assisted suicide law went into effect, making the practice a felony.

Kevorkian, 70, has acknowledged a role in some 130 assisted

suicides since 1990, but said Youk's death was his first euthanasia.

Kevorkian has been charged with murder before.

The first time stemmed from the 1990 death of Janet Adkins of Portland, Oregon, the first person whose death he attended. The charge was dropped by a judge who ruled the state had no law banning assisted suicide. A 1992 charge was dropped for the same reason.

The retired pathologist also was acquitted in three trials involving five deaths. A fourth trial was declared a mistrial.

Kevorkian's face was not shown on the 60 Minutes video at the point when Youk was being injected, but he said during the show and in subsequent interviews that he was challenging prosecutors to charge him.

"They must charge me. Because if they do not, that means they don't think it was a crime," Kevorkian said on the program.

Gorycyca said that Kevorkian was to surrender yesterday for his arraignment. Gorycyca said he would ask that Kevorkian be held without bond.

State Sen. Bill Van Regenmorter, who introduced the assisted suicide bill, said he was pleased with Gorycyca's decision.

"I think that it's outstanding. This is a defining moment for Michigan. We are either going to pursue a culture of death or a culture of life," he said. "My hat is off to Prosecutor Gorycyca."

Kevorkian's former lawyer, Michael Schwartz, told radio station WWJ, "The jury has to ... decide whether government should be allowed to make people suffer against their will."

Will Saddam test West during Ramadan?

KUWAIT (Reuters) — Some Western powers and Gulf allies fear that Baghdad may challenge their resolve after the Muslim holy month of Ramadan begins after December 19.

The UN Security Council Tuesday expressed full support for UN inspectors, but failed to admonish Iraq for refusing to hand over sensitive documents they have demanded.

Russia blocked a British-drafted statement that made clear Baghdad was not complying with its November 15 promise to resume cooperation.

President Saddam Hussein "is testing the Security Council with this row to see how far it is willing to go but the more difficult steps for Baghdad are still ahead," said a senior Western diplomat in Kuwait where American and British forces are on standby.

Saddam "could trigger a crisis in Ramadan to see how far the Americans are willing to go...and it would be a difficult decision," the diplomat said.

Reports said Washington sent out B-52 bombers to attack Iraq on November 14, but called them back literally minutes before striking Iraq, which rescinded a decision to end cooperation with arms inspectors.

The United States and Britain warned Iraq that they would not hesitate to attack it without warning if it failed to carry out its pledge of unconditional cooperation with the inspectors.

Iraq experts say Saddam should — logically — avoid any provocations at least until the United Nations begins a promised comprehensive review of Iraq's compliance with 1991 Gulf War-related UN resolutions. That could lead to easing or lifting of crippling economic sanctions imposed on Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

"But logic is not one of Saddam's traits," said a senior Western diplomat. "He does not listen to anyone and does not understand the outside world so we can't tell which way he will jump." "He underestimates the preparedness of the United States to act alone because Ramadan or not, domestic politics and pressures play a large role in the American decision," he added.

Diplomats and official sources say some regional states were somewhat disappointed that military strikes were not launched in mid-November. They had hoped strikes against Iraq would put an end to the cycle of crises their countries have repeatedly had to face since the Gulf War.

The notion that military strikes would trigger an internal uprising against Saddam is "more of a chance than a probability," one diplomat said, but such attacks would most probably end arms inspections.



Relatives of thousands of Chileans, murdered or tortured under the regime of Gen. Augusto Pinochet, shout for joy in Santiago as they hear the news from England that he is not immune from arrest, a step which makes extradition to Spain more likely. (AP)

British court says Pinochet has no immunity from arrest

By MAUREEN JOHNSON

LONDON (AP) — Britain's highest court ruled today that Gen. Augusto Pinochet does not have immunity from arrest, meaning the former Chilean dictator must remain in custody while Spain seeks his extradition for killings and torture by his security forces.

The 3-2 decision by a tribunal of the House of Lords came on Pinochet's 83rd birthday. It reversed a court ruling that Pinochet's arrest October 16 was illegal because he had immunity under English law for actions taken as a foreign former head of state.

The general and his wife, Lucia, heard the news — broadcast live — in his room at the Grosvenor Hotel, the north London hospital where he had remained under police guard.

Crowds of demonstrators outside Parliament — and in Santiago — many of them victims and relatives of people who disappeared during Pinochet's regime, whooped, cheered and waved flags and signs after hearing today's ruling.

"I think it's a victory over every murderer in the world," said George Madaraga, a former soldier in the Chilean army who had tears streaming down his face. "It's a human victory, not a political victory. Every torturer should be brought to justice."

"This is a great day of victory for Pinochet's thousands of victims," said Reed Brody of the New York-based group Human Rights Watch.

Spanish and British prosecutors had appealed the October 28 High Court judgment.

Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said his government, which had opposed the human rights probe that led to Pinochet's arrest, would respect the ruling in deference to "common sense" and "judicial independence." A Chilean government report says 3,197 people were murdered or disappeared during Pinochet's 1973-90 rule after he overthrew Salvador Allende, an elected Marxist.

Pinochet now must appear before Bow Street Magistrates' Court in London on December 2, the deadline by which Home Secretary Jack Straw must decide whether extradition proceedings can go ahead.

Pinochet's best hope is that Straw will block the Spanish extradition proceedings, which would probably block extradition requests lodged by Switzerland, France and other countries. If Straw gives the go-ahead, Pinochet faces a long battle through the British courts against extradition.

Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, a staunch supporter of Pinochet, immediately appealed for Straw to block the proceed-

ings. "The senator is old, frail and sick, and on compassionate grounds alone should be allowed to return to Chile," she said.

Key issues in the appeal were whether international law and custom — including trials of Rwanda Hutus for genocide and war crimes, and Britain's 1988 adoption of a UN Convention on

Torture — override this country's sweeping State Immunity Act passed in 1978.

Prosecutors' lawyers argued that Pinochet's alleged crimes were beyond immunity.

Pinochet underwent back surgery October 9 during a regular visit to Britain and was arrested in his bed at another hospital.

A Pinochet chronology

Key events in the career of former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet:

Aug. 23, 1973 — President Salvador Allende, a Marxist, names Pinochet commander-in-chief of the Chilean Army.

Sep. 11, 1973 — Leads bloody military coup that topples Allende. In his ensuing 17-year rule, about 3,000 people are murdered or disappear.

Oct. 21, 1980 — Issues new constitution allowing him to stay in power for at least another eight years.

Sep. 7, 1986 — Survives an attempt on his life by a leftist rebel group; six of his bodyguards are killed.

Oct. 5, 1988 — Loses referendum in which he sought to extend his rule until the end of the century, and is forced to call open election.

March 11, 1990 — Steps down from power and is replaced by election winner, Patricio Aylwin.

March 10, 1998 — Steps down as army commander after almost a quarter of a century.

March 11, 1998 — Amid widespread protests, he is sworn-in as senator-for-life, as permitted by the constitution drafted by his regime.

Oct. 16, 1998 — British police arrest him at a London hospital where he is recovering from back surgery, in response to a warrant by a Spanish judge.

Nov. 25, 1998 — House of Lords rules that he has no immunity and must face trial to fight extradition to Spain. (AP)

Primakov vows to get tough to boost economy

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov, taking the initiative while President Boris Yeltsin is sidelined by pneumonia, vowed yesterday to take tough measures to pull Russia out of its economic crisis and crack down on crime.

In televised remarks, Primakov stood firm in his drive to tighten state control of the economy after an International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission left Moscow without agreement on the release of the next slice of a \$22.6 billion loan intended to help Russia through its crisis.

The IMF opposes strengthening the role of the state and fears Primakov is steering Russia away from liberal reforms.

The prime minister's comments yesterday contained no specific new proposals, simply repeating his calls for increased state intervention.

"In the economy we must, of course, foresee the strengthening of the state's regulatory role," Primakov, 69, said in televised comments at a meeting with officials from the Emergency Ministry and law-enforcement bodies. "We cannot go any further just counting on market forces solving everything."

Primakov also pledged to "toughen measures to combat

crime and corruption." Concern has intensified since the murder Friday of Galina Starovoitova, a liberal politician and human rights activist who was buried in St. Petersburg Tuesday. Many politicians blame Yeltsin for doing too little to fight crime.

The government is now trying to draw up its draft budget for 1999, but is having problems making calculations because it does not know how much foreign aid Russia is likely to receive.

The government, facing huge wage arrears and looming debt payments, wants the IMF to free a \$4.3 billion tranche of its \$22.6 billion loan as soon as possible. But the IMF mission left Tuesday without saying when the money would be released.

Government officials say the IMF mission criticized the government's latest budget draft for doing too little to boost tax revenues and too much to support unprofitable enterprises.

The Kremlin described Yeltsin's condition yesterday as stable and said he is continuing treatment in hospital for pneumonia, the latest illness to mar his ill-fated second presidential term.

Yeltsin's decline has forced him to hand some of his responsibilities to Primakov, whose authority is growing.

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License Arutz 7

There was no lack of irony on Tuesday when the Attorney-General's Office announced its intention to indict senior personnel of the Arutz 7 pirate radio station for violating the law against illegal broadcasts. The fact that the action is being taken while a Likud government is undertaking a revolution in communications deregulation, and while the settlers' movement is going through the wrenching process of absorbing the land concessions of the Wye Memorandum, points to an immediate need to reform the laws regulating the air waves in Israel. The government and the country's arms of justice also need to exercise a bit more common sense in deciding when and how to enforce the laws on the books. Treating people like outlaws can often itself be the cause of their acting like outlaws.

The charges filed against 13 broadcasters and managers of the Arutz 7 settlers' radio station included indictments for operating without a license, operation of wireless equipment without a license, and use of radio frequencies without authorization. Given the open manner in which Arutz 7's broadcasts were listened to throughout the country, on a strict reading of the law it is certainly possible to claim that the station managers did knowingly commit the actions attributed to them. But while upholding the law of the land is a cornerstone of proper government and administration, consideration should also be given to the fact that the managers of Arutz 7 have repeatedly claimed they would be perfectly willing to apply for licenses - if only the law enabled them to do so.

As Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein himself pointed out this week at the Knesset, the simple fact that the letter of the law enables the state to prosecute individuals on a vast number of possible violations does not necessarily mean that indictments should always be filed. As Rubinstein put it, one needs to implement common sense in such matters.

Arutz 7 has been operating for years in an unobstructed manner. Its broadcasts, giving voice to a not insignificant sector of the Israeli public which felt that its opinions were not heard frequently enough on government-controlled and monopolized radio, have often been considered a mirror image to Abie Nathan's Voice of Peace radio station, which similarly broadcast outside the territory of the state and gave alternative points of view a public stage. The Voice of Peace was never shut down by government action in all its years of broadcasts, until it went out of business. Similar tolerance of Arutz 7's operation was exhibited through many years of Likud, Labor, and unity governments. Indeed, politicians from virtually every corner of the Knesset were regularly interviewed in its news segments without giving the matter a second thought.

The fact that legal action is being taken now against the "settlers' radio station," given the

context of the painful redeployment as part of the Wye agreement, is already arousing suspicions, justified or not, in the minds of many settlers. Arutz 7 played an important role in assisting Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu win the last general election by firmly supporting his candidacy. The station, along with the settler movement, is going through a difficult period now as it is trying to adjust to the new reality of the Likud-led government it supported agreeing to withdrawals from parts of the Land of Israel.

A subtext of much of the settlers' complaints against the previous Labor-led government was the fact that they felt decisions were being taken affecting their very lives without consulting them, as if they were non-existent. The 170,000 settlers form a significant enough fraction of the population. While they cannot be given a veto over the decisions of the government or Knesset, in a democratic system their voice has as much legitimacy to be heard as any other. Indeed, the fact that the settlers' protest against the implementation of the Wye accord has been relatively muted is directly related to a sense that, in this government their positions are at least given a fair hearing, even if they are not necessarily accepted.

The shutting down of Arutz 7 is dangerous at this juncture, because it might be interpreted as an attempt by the government to disenfranchise the settler movement and drive it underground. And a movement which feels that it has been forced to go underground is far more dangerous than one given a chance to participate in public discourse.

The final irony is that fact that the Netanyahu government, through the commendable efforts of Communications Minister Limor Livnat, has been preparing the greatest revolution in the communications field in Israel's history. The Communications Ministry is taking numerous steps to reverse decades-old attitudes, which regarded the air waves as being a government monopoly, by working towards deregulation and an "open skies" policy. Yet this government has also failed to provide Arutz 7 a legal way to broadcast within the bounds of the law.

There should be no distinction in principle between freedom of the printed word and freedom of the spoken word in broadcasting. With minimal government supervision, broadcast frequencies should be made available to any group or individual willing to operate radio stations at their expense, even if only to prevent a situation in which certain segments of the public feel that their views are being kept out of monopolized government channels. Arutz 7 should be given the right to broadcast, under license, as any other group.

Prosecution of those violating the law is a vital tool of law enforcement. There are cases, however, in which common sense leads to the conclusion that the law is more in need of correction than the lawbreakers.

Moving in for the kill

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

When the South African partner of this column was five years old and camping with his family near a Transvaal river, it was the Zulu nanny who warned her charge: "Passop! [Beware] the cruel crocodiles. They will seize you in their jaws and let you die slowly. When you are near death their horrible eyes will blaze like the fierce sun before they gobble you up!"

cide bombings - the worst orgy of terrorism this country has ever experienced.

HISTORY has not repeated itself - as yet, anyway - on that horrific scale since the signing of the Wye Memorandum. But that was sheer luck, as bombers in fact attempted to attack a school bus in the Gaza Strip and shoppers in Jerusalem's Mahaneh Yehuda market.

Our withdrawals broadcast weakness to the Palestinians, who are just waiting to pounce

Those warning words came to mind as Palestinians danced with joy when the IDF pulled out of Kabatiya in northern Samaria last Friday. They raised their Kalashnikovs triumphantly into the air - perhaps the same rifles that Yasser Arafat threatens to wave over Jerusalem, which he plans to make the capital of his future Palestinian state.

The "crocodile" warning, for Israel, is more applicable today than ever before. The Palestinians will unleash their full fury and hatred when they feel the Jews are weakening and are ready for the coup de grace.

The warning went unheeded five years ago, when Yitzhak Rabin shook the hand of PLO terrorist leader Arafat at the White House to signify the "new dawn" of peace that the Oslo Accords were designed to create. Peace was on the lips of Israeli politicians who said "let's give them a chance."

Yet there was no sudden flowering of goodwill on the part of the Palestinians, because they sensed that the Jews were losing the heroic resolve that had filled the spirits of the early pioneers who built this land. Victory whetted the appetites of the Palestinian leadership, just as the crocodile anticipates with relish his midday meal held tightly in his jaws.

The result was a series of sui-

The low body count, however, hasn't stopped Palestinian leaders and their followers from feeling triumphant, believing that now the Jews are really on the run. They are seen as flabby and weak, as they abandon further chunks of their ancestral homeland.

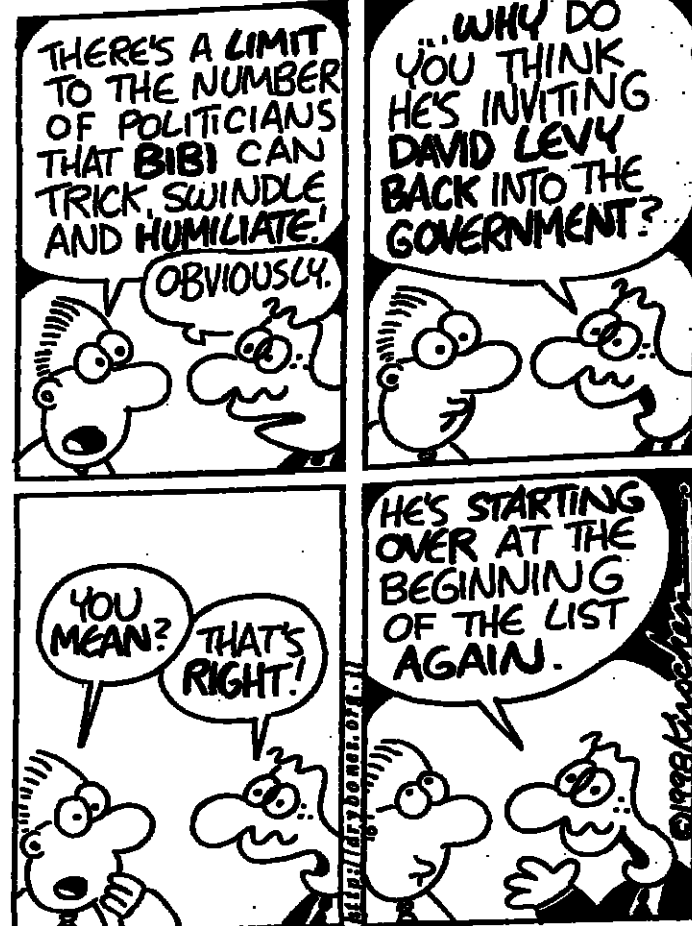
If Arafat is comparatively quiescent at present, it is clear that he is patiently waiting for the day when he gets his hands on another 13.1% of the West Bank - giving him some 40% of the area. His ceaseless provocations of today surely portend the unleashing of full-scale terror once the land is under his control. His comments and exhortations to his people are totally contrary to the commitments made by him at Wye to prevent incitement.

The burning rage of the crocodile is reflected in the words and cartoons of the Palestinian and other Arab media.

A mere 15 days after the Wye Accords, the official Palestinian newspaper, *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida* (November 7) explains why the Israelis are giving up part of their homeland.

"In their history...the Jews were subject to losses and expulsion as a result of their wickedness and their despicable acts...Corruption is part of the Jews' nature...It's apparent that the Jews were subjected to losses and expulsions as

Dry Bones



a result of their wickedness and their despicable acts.

All this occurred after their true nature and their responsibility for destroying the world has been revealed.

During a religious TV program four days earlier, viewers were told "that the Jews are the seed of Satan and the devils. The Jews do not believe in God... They lied about their Torah and forged it. They have distorted the faith and exchanged the gift of God for heresy, rebellion and prostitution and distorted the Torah."

PERHAPS we should not be surprised. After all, in Egypt, our first peace partner, the incitement in the state-controlled media is as pernicious as any knife or bomb.

"The Jews invented the myth of mass extermination and the fabrication of 6 million Jews that were put to death in Nazi ovens."

declared *Al-Akhar* on September 25. Added the *October* weekly (October 4): "Satan worship is part of Judaism."

The cartoons in the Egyptian press are increasingly virulent.

One particularly vicious caricature in the Egyptian *Al Gomhouriya* (September 18) shows both Netanyahu and Israeli soldiers signing the Nazi "Heil Hitler" salute.

Another in the same publication (October 26) depicts a *Der Sturmer* Jew with a long nose whispering to the Netanyahu: "You should have insisted on Monica's return to the White House as a condition for signing the Wye deal."

Clearly the Egyptians - who have experience with crocodiles in the Nile - are now convinced that they have the Jews on the ropes - and are ratcheting up their incitement as they prepare for what they see as the kill.

The View From the East

DAOUD KUTTAB

Let our people go!

Buthina Dugmaq is an energetic Palestinian journalist from Al Bireh. Since 1980, not one month has gone by without her visiting Palestinian political prisoners in Israeli jails. In the early Eighties, she visited her brother and cousin; when the intifada began, her visits were part of her work representing the Mandela Institute for political prisoners.

Buthina says that she averages 8-10 visits a month and visits prisoners from all the Palestinian political factions, as well as Jordanian, Syrian and Lebanese prisoners. The exceptions are the 19 Hizbullah prisoners held in the Ayalon Prison since September 1996. They cannot have visitors, and even their trials are held in secret.

I asked Buthina about the prisoners' reaction to last week's scandalous release of thieves and other criminals in lieu of the Palestinian freedom fighters. Her Ramallah office was full of prisoners' relatives, each with a story to tell and all clearly angry and disappointed at what happened.

Since the signing of the Wye Memorandum, Buthina has made

seven visits to Israeli jails. She said that during every visit, prisoners were excited about the expected releases.

The prisoners she is talking about are not prisoners who were arrested since the Oslo Accord or anyone opposed to the peace process. On the contrary, she spoke to many prisoners to whom the criteria mentioned in the Oslo Accord apply directly.

Prisoners from the PLO factions - especially from Yasser Arafat's Fatah - who have served more than two-thirds of their terms, and prisoners who are very sick genuinely believed that they would be released once the Wye agreement went into effect.

Fathi Zakout and 25 other sick prisoners were visited by Buthina at the Ramle Prison hospital. Faisal Abu Rab a prisoner from Kalkilya, has served six years of a life sentence he was given for killing a Palestinian collaborator. The family of Nasser Abu Hmeed, from the Amari refugee camp, was told that he would be released. He had been released shortly after the signing of the Oslo Accord but

was rearrested and his previous sentence was reinstated.

All of the above belong to factions that support the peace process. None of them killed Israelis or were imprisoned after the beginning of the Oslo process.

NOTHING raises the Palestinians' blood pressure more than the issue of prisoners. They feel that these prisoners' continued incarceration is a constant reminder that peace is not at hand.

The detention of members of guerrilla movements while their leaders, who gave them orders to fight, are free and negotiating with the Israelis is an absurd situation. And that the Israeli prime minister talks in racist terms about Jewish blood as if it is somehow redder makes the blood of every Palestinian boil.

Not only was the fact that these prisoners were not released a disappointment, but the way the Palestinians learned of it was very troubling. The Israeli leadership which knew very well how important the prisoner releases were deliberately kept quite as Arafat and

his aides spoke day and night about the pending release of the majority of the Palestinian *fedayeen*.

The Israeli connivance does little to reassure Palestinians of Israel's goodwill. When US President Bill Clinton convinced the Israeli prime minister of the need to release political prisoners, it was known this would help Arafat overcome his own opposition. There is no doubt that the promise to release 750 political prisoners paved the way for Arafat's signing the agreement, despite its many inadequacies from the Palestinian point of view.

Not only did the Israeli action not help Arafat, but it produced anger at and criticism of him on the part of the prisoners' families and political activists.

Buthina Dugmaq has many more visits planned, and she doesn't know what she will say to those prisoners she was hoping not to see. Her feelings and those of all Palestinians can be summed up in the slogan used by the Jews when they were slaves in Egypt thousands of years ago: Let our people go!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MISLEADING DESCRIPTION

Sir, - David Froehlich's childhood recollections of Kristallnacht, "Saved amid broken glass and broken lives" (November 9) were marred by a misleading description of the events surrounding the deportation of Polish Jews living in Germany in October 1939.

According to Froehlich, the Jewish expellees were "met by Polish police armed with machine guns. While many of the Jews escaped, many others did not."

This would lead readers to believe that the deportees were gunned down by Polish police. Although the Poles initially denied entry to Polish Jews deported from Germany they did not shoot them.

Most Jews were confined to a provisional detention camp at Zbaszyn on the Polish side of the border. Eventually, the camp inmates were allowed to settle in the interior of Poland (the German authorities permitted some of them to return to Germany to wind up their affairs). Those more fortunate managed to emigrate before the outbreak of the war. The great majority, however, were trapped in Poland and shared the tragic fate of Polish Jewry.

The history of antisemitism in Poland is very well documented. However, that hardly justifies Froehlich's flimsy characterization of the Poles as "no less anti-semitic than the Nazis."

Froehlich's consistent use of the term "Nazi" rather than "German" in describing the primary perpetrators of the Holocaust is no less disturbing. Why should blame be assigned to the "Nazis," rather than "Germans" (and "Austrians"), while all other Europeans involved in the Holocaust are identified by nationality?

Finally, labeling Herschel Grynszpan (the 17-year old Jew from Hanover who assassinated Ernst vom Rath) a "young Pole" because his parents were Polish citizens is ridiculous.

DR. LAURENCE WEINBAUM
Jaffa.

RADICAL SURGERY NEEDED

Sir, - To paraphrase the late emperor Franz Joseph, the situation of the Kupat Holim Chai is catastrophic but not serious.

This anemic, half-starved institution is perpetually on the verge of financial collapse. That which should have been one of the pillars of our society is gradually deteriorating into a feeble adjunct to our community, incapable as it is to care of the public properly.

One of the latest measures to curtail expenditure has been to reduce the working week from six to five days, although the number of the patients (how appropriate) has remained the same in defiance of this restriction.

Illness has stubbornly refused to subside in order to accommodate the government economic policy, if any. The net result has been a permanent overcrowding and near

chaos by deprivation.

It is high time for the responsible authorities to take radical steps in order to remedy fundamentally this most unsatisfactory state of affairs once and for all, instead of sporadically reviving this chronic invalid with injections whose effect is notoriously short-lived.

RENE MODIANO
Rishon LeZion.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On November 26, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported on the distressing experiences of many tourists and even a number of settlers who had been in the country for many years and were arrested as suspected of staying in the country illegally. A number of such per-

sons were later released, while others were deported.

50 years ago: On November 26, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that the State Council had voted to hold the Constituent Assembly elections on January 25, 1949.

The number of newcomers who

had arrived in Israel since the beginning of 1948 was 92,222, and 20,000 immigrants were coming every month. Second to the fighting front, the immigration was the most difficult problem for Israel and the Zionist movement.

Alexander Zvielli

Cold turkey

HELEN SCHARY MOTTO

Telephoning for some routine matter, the phone rang uncharacteristically on and on. When somebody finally picked up, I wanted to make sure. "Is this the American Embassy?"

The answer came back in thick Marine drawl. "Sorry Ma'am, the embassy is closed. Today is the Fourth of July."

No matter that I chose not to commemorate the date; the reminder gave me a jolt of embarrassment and recognition.

Well, the embassy is closed today, too. It's Thanksgiving.

IN the past few years it's become harder not to be aware of the Fourth or other American holidays. Every grocery chain and do-it-yourself hardware outlet is there to signal its approach. The commercialism which robs too many celebrations of significance, turning Memorial Day in the US into an excuse for appliance sales, has been copied with a vengeance. Red, white and blue nylon sheeting competes with the blue and white, sometimes covering it over.

American holidays have become part of the Israeli scene, raising and partially justifying the charges that the Jewish state has become the "51st state." It's easy to resent, coming as it does with the epi-

demio encroachment of lowbrow American culture, cardboard food, and a surfeit of mass-produced products molded out of pastel plastic. But for the most part, Israel gobbles it all up happily, heaping on the ketchup.

For the past few years I have been invited to a Thanksgiving dinner, hosted by a South African married to an Israeli. There are only two Americans among the guests, but the meal bears all traditional Thanksgiving trappings. Yet despite the cranberries, sweet potatoes and turkey, the feel is far from Plymouth Rock.

Mass American culture has spread so far that its symbols, if not their content, are household words in Gush Dan. They have become an excuse for just another festive dinner among friends. Nothing wrong with that. After all, there is nothing sacred about Thanksgiving. Or is there?

IN the modern Western Diaspora, most Jews stood apart from their countries' national holidays, which often bore religious overtones foreign to them. Christmas, obviously, made the strongest impression everywhere, but even those who sang carols kept them at arm's length. They happily took

off from work or school, enjoying the holidays without internalizing them. And when they came to Israel, they left them behind.

Who ever heard of an Israeli food festival to commemorate South African Covenanter Day, the October Revolution, the First of May, the Dutch Queen's Birthday, or Bastille Day? After a few years, ex-Belgians have trouble even recalling national celebrations, and Montreals in Rehavia hardly pine away for Canada Day. Back in New Zealand and Australia the kids solemnly wear poppies to honor veterans on Anzac Day, but once in Israel they ceased to notice. And it is a rare British immigrant who waxes nostalgic over Guy Fawkes Day.

But for former Americans, it's different. It's not hard to find grown-up Americans in Jerusalem yearning for pumpkins in October. Because Jews in the US were brought up to believe that the holidays were really theirs as much as anybody else's, Lincoln's Birthday belonged to everybody, more so than Victoria Day.

So even decades later - and continents removed - it's hard not to have the old feeling flood back. Whatever cynicism might have

crept in dissipates with the distance.

THERE is more than a little irony in celebrating the settling or the independence of a country one has chosen to leave. Taking their significance seriously implies sacrifice, or insensitivity, and raises troubling questions of dual loyalties.

And yet, their pull remains. Foreign embassies and immigrant associations host happenings and picnics on their respective national holidays. When local expatriates drop in, it's partially for fun, partially as a litmus test of their own buried uncertainties.

Holidays in absentia inevitably bear a bittersweet strain. They recall the bifurcation inherent in voluntary emigration. Nostalgia invites ambivalence, even regret.

Maybe to truly assimilate it would be best to treat the last Thursday of November like any other day. To do the weekend shopping, to order a pizza delivered free from the new fast food place down the block, to call the embassy by mistake.

Instead of eating stuffed turkey in a fool's paradise of reminiscence, better to go cold turkey and cut the emotional ties to the Old Country.

Immigrants ought to be warned: Straddling the fence can be dangerous to your health, especially on Thanksgiving.

هكذا من الامم

Turning the tablas

Indian musician Zakir Hussain bridges Eastern and Western traditions at performances in Jerusalem and Jaffa

By BARRY DAVIS

As fall the increasing numbers of musicians who have, in recent years, begun to bridge the musical possibilities by the blend of Eastern and Western music, perhaps none have a stronger claim to the unofficial title of world-music champion than internationally renowned tabla player Zakir Hussain.

In musical terms, Hussain was born with a silver spoon – if not a tabla, which is a pair of small drums – in his mouth and he was an acclaimed tabla player by the tender age of 12. As the son and disciple of legendary Indian tabla player Alla Rakha, he not only inherited a rich diet of percussion, he was also exposed to Western musical elements, particularly jazz, from a very early age.

When he was in his early teens, his father made records with jazz legends Buddy Rich and Elvin Ray, as well as with saxophonist Charlie Parker. These were a regular feature of Hussain's childhood musical menu.

But next week's visit to this part of the world – Hussain will be performing at Jaffa's Noga Theater on November 30 and at the International Convention Center two days later – will be a strictly Indian affair.

The main performer will be the world's leading santoor player, Shiv Kumar Sharma, who will be accompanied by his son, and fellow santoorist, Rahul Sharma, as well as by Hussain himself.

Hussain and Shiv Kumar began their musical collaboration in the late 1960s, when Hussain was a teenager.

"After that I moved to America, didn't play together for 10 years," Hussain said in a telephone interview from his home in San Francisco. "But, since the late Seventies onwards, we have made many records and performed together all over the world."

Hussain is particularly looking forward to teaming up with Shiv Kumar in Israel.

"One of the great things about playing with Shiv Kumar is that he, himself, was a tabla player before he became a santoorist," Hussain explained.

As a result, Hussain explained, Kumar understands the subtleties of tabla playing and how to communicate with Indian percussion music as a whole, as well as having the ability to discern the strengths of an individual tabla player.

Technically speaking, Shiv Kumar is a fun player to play with, said Hussain, adding that the 100-string santoor principally combines melody with rhythm, it makes a perfect foil for the tabla.

While Shiv Kumar adheres to a more traditional approach to

Indian music, Hussain has been experimenting with east-west musical fusions for over 20 years.

Perhaps one of the main differences between Eastern and Western music, as between the cultures themselves, is one of evolutionary pace. In contrast with commercial Western music, in the East – and specifically in Indian music – no one is in a hurry to show off their skills to their adoring public.

Eastern musicians generally learn their trade over many years. In view of his long association with some of the most fabled artists of the jazz and rock worlds – including jazz musicians guitarist John McLaughlin and saxophonist Jan Garbarek, ex-Grateful Dead drummer Mickey Hart and former Beatle George Harrison – one would have thought Hussain had already acquired more than a modicum of understanding of the Western genre.

But Hussain says that it is only now, after two decades of playing with Western musicians, that he is "beginning to understand other forms of music, other traditions, better than I did 15 years ago."

In fact, his grasp of Western music has attained such a level of mastery that he is now able not only to blend his tabla playing with the efforts of Western musicians, but is gaining "increasing stature as a composer of works which span the east-west divide with consummate fluency."

"I am now at a point where I am being commissioned to do a lot more composing work involving these various [Eastern and Western] traditions," he says.

THE program of the recent San Francisco Jazz Festival included the premiere of a 35-minute jazz piece, written by Hussain, called *Rapt* (as in "rapture") and featuring a polyglot of Western jazz singers performing music based on Indian scales, saxophonists, vibraphonists, an Indian dancer interpreting the singers' text, "and a choir of tabla players playing as if they were a horn section in a Big Band," he says.

Hussain says the piece was well received: "It got an incredible ovation."

Hussain's ceaseless search for new avenues of musical expression has also led him into some of the more traditional bastions of Western art, with a composition written for ballet premiering in San Francisco last September.

Hussain, 48, says he was lucky enough to be around at the right time to benefit from the opening up of the Western world to Eastern music in the early Seventies when he moved to the States.

He cites his father's 1968 record with Buddy Rich, *Rich Alla Rakha*, as the first album of jazz and Indian music ever made. This was followed by further east-west synthesis in the early Seventies,



Zakir Hussain has been experimenting with musical fusion for more than 20 years.

featuring classical violinist Yehudi Menuhin and renowned sitar player Ravi Shankar.

Hussain, meanwhile, has also been a significant contributor to the burgeoning popularity of world music. In 1992, he established his own record label – Moment Records – which promotes live recordings of the dozens of Indian music, as well as several east-west ensembles.

His first foray into the world of fusion was on the 1971 *Rolling Thunder* album, made with Mickey Hart, followed by the formation of the *Diga Rhythm Band*, which Hussain describes as "the first real drum fusion ensemble."

There was also Hussain's famed synergy with McLaughlin, double string violinist L. Shankar and a number of Indian musicians in the *Shakti* line-up.

The aptly named *Song for Everyman* album, released in 1985, in which Hussain plays alongside Shankar, Garbarek and Indian per-

cussionist Trilok Gurtu – was a commercial success.

One year later, Hussain produced *Making Music* (together with McLaughlin, Garbarek and fated Indian flute player Hariprasad Chaurasia), which is considered a milestone in the development of Indian-jazz fusion.

HUSSAIN is now fully on the east-west track, and is due here again in May for the Israel Festival, when he will perform with McLaughlin, possibly Garbarek ("I think they are talking to him about it") and as yet unnamed flute player.

There are also musical projects with Israeli musicians in the pipeline. Just three days after his forthcoming gig in Jerusalem, Hussain is due to appear with the Danny Gottfried jazz quartet in New Delhi as part of India's contribution to Israel's jubilee celebrations.

Hussain's previous visit here, in

1996, spawned a recording with the local, recently reunited, ethnic group, Bustan Avraham and Champania.

Always on the lookout for new modes of musical expression, Hussain has recently begun adding his voice to his tabla expertise, although he is quick to claim that "singing is something I don't feel I'm comfortable with."

Nonetheless, the recent Pharoah Sanders album, *Save Our Children*, features Hussain's voice on one of the tracks as he hummed along to his tabla playing. And his composition for the San Francisco Ballet Company required him to sing a piece live on stage, "but that's the extent of it," he says, hurriedly.

Hussain is looking forward to his impending visit to Israel, for gastronomic as well as purely musical motives.

"I'm looking forward to being in Israel, and having some humor," he laughs.

Ramallah by night

By SARAH ARENS

You could be anywhere – anywhere glamorous, that is – and cosmopolitan. Expats, fund managers, European civil servants and diplomats are all there, along with stylishly thin bachelors hanging on the arms of well-dressed men.

There's a pool table in the rear and a neon sign directs you to the cocktail bar. James Dean and Marilyn Monroe grace the walls. No, you're not abroad. You're at the Flamingo Club in Ramallah – named for the first casino in Las Vegas.

Money has been pouring into the West Bank center of the Palestinian Authority since the 1993 Oslo accords. You can see it in the American-style restaurants and bars, in the five-star hotels with pools and a gym, in the newly-built villas on the outskirts of town. You can sense it in the air tinged with the aroma of espresso.

The facade of the Flamingo Club, a riot of greenery and blossom spilling from white bones, suggests an Italian trattoria. But inside it's anything more like an American diner or theme restaurant. The lighting is low; the music is loud, contemporary American pop, and the menu is shrimp cocktail and breaded mushrooms – a relic of the '70s.

The management calls the food Mexican style, and to the credit of the kitchen staff the dishes I sampled arrived freshly prepared and deliciously so.

No allowances are made for possible Middle Eastern proclivities, except maybe for Taybeh beer, and everyone was drinking Carlsberg or Heineken anyway.

The place felt like a SoHo bistro on a Friday night, packed to the seams with business consultants keen to put the rigors of the week behind them. The service was efficient, but slow, the waiters and bar staff inconspicuous. There were no mobile phones in sight (except those brought along by the group from west Jerusalem, who found they didn't work there anyway), no rattle sounds or sirens.

By 10:30 the management was turning people away.

The highlight of Thursday evenings at Flamingo are the jazz musicians who play from 8 until the early hours of Friday morning. The five-man, all-Israeli band travels to Ramallah from west Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The group, which started playing at Flamingo three weeks ago, was formed by Arnie Lawrence, saxophonist and director of the Creative Music Center in Jerusalem. He is joined by Jean-Claude Jones, head of the jazz department at the Rubin Academy of Music and Dance, on double bass, Tel Avivian Jonathan Avishai on piano, Elon Tzameret on guitar, and Bob Myer on drums.

The listening clientele is varied. There are the locals who studied and worked in the US before Oslo, and returned with money and optimism to invest in their hometown. Senior European Commission officials, a group of foreign journalists, and a few representatives of EcoPeace also frequent the club where everyone clearly has good time.

At Flamingo politics does not exist and work is only a feeble memory. Tomorrow, no doubt, we'll wake to more bad news on the political front, but tonight, at the Flamingo, it's thankfully just jazz as usual.

Flamingo Club, 69 Al-Ahliyah College St., Ramallah

AFTER HOURS

Movies on my mind

Director Jonathan Sagalle talks about his favorite films

The charismatic and versatile Jonathan Sagalle is one of Israel's freshest young film talents. Canadian-born, Sagalle started out as an actor after studying drama at London's prestigious Guildhall School of Music and Drama. One of his earliest appearances was as Momo in Boaz Davidson's buzzing *Lemon Popsicle*. Later he appeared in Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List*, where he played Poldek Pfefferberg, an experience which he regards as the closest to "reading the footpaths of Hell" he'll ever get, not least because it forced him to deal with his own family's Holocaust history.

Several years ago Sagalle wrote a screenplay entitled *Urban Feel* ("Keshet Ir"), which was shot in November and December 1997. Sagalle edited, co-produced and starred in the film which won the Best Picture of 1998 award at the 1998 Haifa International Film Festival.

Nominated in 12 categories for the 1998 Israeli Academy Awards, the film won Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress.

Urban Feel, which will shortly be on general release in Israel, is a non-sentimental story about love's pitfalls and oddities, and offers some sharp psychological insights into what the director calls "the crap which often goes by the name of relationships and love."

"Some people may hate this film because it's uncomfortable to watch people in constant search of something we realize they'll never find, but just as I hate suffering and taking things too seriously, I try to pull my characters out of the abyss... Fortunately, the audience at a sneak preview in Tel Aviv laughed heartily... so I feel relieved and can retire peacefully to write my memoirs on some remote island in the Indian Ocean."

Here Sagalle reflects on the five films which have made the most lasting impression on him.



could humbly accede to people being smarter, more talented, and better looking than me ... but I admit I envy and resent this American director... if not for his incredible talent, then for the bionic pace at which he produces brilliant scripts one after the next."

3. *Sunday, Bloody Sunday*, John Schlesinger (1971)
"As a youngster in the late '70s, I couldn't stop marveling... and well, getting turned on by, the raw nakedness of Schlesinger's characters."

"It wasn't only the sexual openness... I think what really grabbed me was the daring... seeing two men smooching and chewing each other's tongues on film in those days was an immense rarity, not to mention Glenda Jackson's stunning nakedness. I was pretty taken by it all as a youngster."

4. *Theorem*, Pier Paolo Pasolini (1968)
"This film was a direct influence on the story-line and characterization of *Urban Feel*. Besides being a classic emotional stir, it's a pretty racy film. Sex, especially in modern cinema, is usually pretty lame... The rawness of Pasolini's cinema is overwhelming... If someone needs to shit or fornicate, they just go ahead and do so... I really admire the director and his actors for being so candid."

5. *Bullets Over Broadway*, Woody Allen (1994)
"After I saw this film for the first time, I couldn't stop quoting Dianne Wiest's lines. She's such a grand performer... I think I caused myself a intestinal hemorrhage laughing. It's definitely one of the most inventive comedies ever made!"

— Sarah Arens

Hot tip

By DANIELA SCHOENLIN

Tel Aviv

Leap into the dance season! The Curran Up festival is now going into its third week and is in full swing with Vertigo tonight at 9. *Hansin* and *Red Cow* are these spunky, funky group's latest creations. Call (03) 510-5656 for details.

Traditional types will be cheered by the Israeli folk dancing of the rejuvenated Karmon Dance Company, but beware! After many years of hiatus, the company has some pretty modern folk moves. The group performs at the Noga Theater in Jaffa starting at 8:30

p.m., call (03) 681-6433 for tickets.

Saturday, catch *Zachacha* if you haven't already (and if you have, it's great the second time around, too), starting at 11:30 a.m., by Ensemble Bat Sheva; also at Suzanne Dellal.

Finally, Monday night will definitely be worthwhile back at the festival, when Moshe Efrati and Kol Drama perform *Anti Mechikon* at Suzanne Dellal.

Music is all around town tonight as well. The powers that be have decreed that Shlomo Artzi, a pop-music legend in these parts, is all sold out for this weekend. But fun-club members should know that the master of moody melodies is performing at Tzavta tonight (9) and Saturday night. Call (03) 604-4725 to beg for tickets.

If Shlomo is simply inaccessible tonight, tomorrow night offers a pleasant alternative: the affable Aviv Gefen takes his place at Tzavta, starting at 9:30. Further, tomorrow night, Rami Kleinstein offers his 100th performance of *Anything You Want* at the Noga Theater in Jaffa at 10 p.m.

And for music that is decidedly off the pop track, but hauntingly beautiful, Amal Markus performs

at the Tel Aviv Museum on Saturday night, starting at 8:30. The show is appropriately titled *Amal*, and her Arabic singing is accompanied by Alon Olearchik (of Kaveret fame), and A. Hadani on guitar. The show expresses an overriding theme of longing for peace and harmonious living.

Finally, tonight is absolutely the last chance to hear the magic of classical guitar at the International Classical Guitar Festival. Located at the Enav Cultural Center.

Theater also revels in diversity this weekend. The Camel Comedy Club in Tel Aviv presents Ron Levy tonight. 6 Nahum Goldman Street in Jaffa; call: (03) 527-9797.

If heading toward Jaffa, don't forget about the other options: Chekhov's classic *Three Sisters* is being performed this evening by Gesher Theater in Old Jaffa, starting at 8. Call (03) 560-0783.

Another classic, this one of Israeli origin, *Bustan Sfaradi*, is a lovable, singalong-style musical at Habimah tonight, starting at 8:30. The Yiddishpiel does its part for "diversity" in this weekend's theater: *The Melody in the Heart* stars

another legendary figure, Dudu Fisher, alongside Yankele Alpin and Gad Yagil. Music by Rafi Kadishson, directed by the maestro of Yiddish theater in Israel, Shmuel Atzmon. At the ZOA House Saturday night, starting at 8:30 p.m. Call 1-800-444-660. And if the date doesn't work, try for Monday night in Petah Tikva.

Jerusalem

The holy city hearkens the Andalusian spirit of the Jewish world, as the Jerusalem Theater hosts the Israel Andalusian Orchestra tonight. The concert features new Andalusian music, and guest pianist Maurice El Medioni from France. Rebecca Crown Auditorium, 8:30 p.m. Call (02) 560-5755.

Yakar is holding a "poetry slam" this evening, with Mark Kirschbaum and Daniel Segre playing acoustic world music, and they aren't kidding: songs in Italian; Yiddish and other languages grace the stage. 10 Halamed Heh Street in Old Katamon. 9 p.m. (02) 561-2310.

Topping off the weekend, Meir Ariel performs at the Pargod

Theater, starting at 9:30 p.m.

And Points Beyond

Anglophiles are invited to a *Picnic* tonight! This William Inge play about love in the 1950s will be performed by the Tel Aviv Community Theater – in English – at the Ra'anana Yad Lebanon tonight at 8:30. Call (03) 605-7549.

If you can't fight the crowds to see Shlomo Artzi, take his son instead. Ben Artzi performs at the Netanyahu Muza Club. 10 p.m.

For a mature pop-music evening, Corinne Allal performs her lusty and energetic tunes tonight with David Saban, at the Japto Club in Haifa, starting at 10. Theater also reaches the north this evening, as one of the Khan's best, *The Virgin of Ludmir*, plays in the Afula Heichal Hatarbut. There are two shows, at 4:30 and 9 p.m.

Finally, dance is determined to reach everyone and Karmon has the last word, performing in Beersheba on Saturday night. Heichal Hatarbut, 8:30 p.m. Call (07) 646-3657 for details.

Weekender Food & Drink Great greens



(Above) A savory dish of 'dragged' greens, potato, garlic and rosemary; (below) Moroccan mixed salad with wild greens, preserved lemons and olives.

By SYLVIA CARTER

Paula Wolfert's newest book, *Mediterranean Grains and Greens*, bristles with bookmarks that flag recipes I want to try: Turkish griddle bread stuffed with green garlic; Cretan "scarf" pies with wild greens; sautéed black Tuscan kale with garlicky white beans; and an Egyptian "Alexandria Quarter" of rice, brown lentils, pan-crisped pasta and browned onions.

Years ago, when I wanted to learn how to make Moroccan food, with its deep, exotic flavors, I became a disciple of Wolfert's book *Couscous and Other Good Food From Morocco*. Nobody has written with more authority and passion about that kind of food, though the book was published 25 years ago.

In the latest book, Wolfert said, "I put in everything that was full of wonderment to me." Because this book covers the Mediterranean, not just one country, "I can pick and choose" recipes, she said recently over breakfast in Manhattan.

Her approach in the book "can be quirky," Wolfert, who travels from her home in California to remote places in search of grass-roots cooking, said there are some recipes in the book that "nobody has ever explained," such as how to roll your own couscous out of semolina grain.

If Wolfert had not documented the custom of "apron greens," gathered in apron pockets that have three compartments, would we know of it? The pockets are for "sweet" greens, "bitter" greens and, perhaps, wild mushrooms. Wolfert's enthusiasm inspires. It is tempting to sew such an apron and set out to forage for greens.

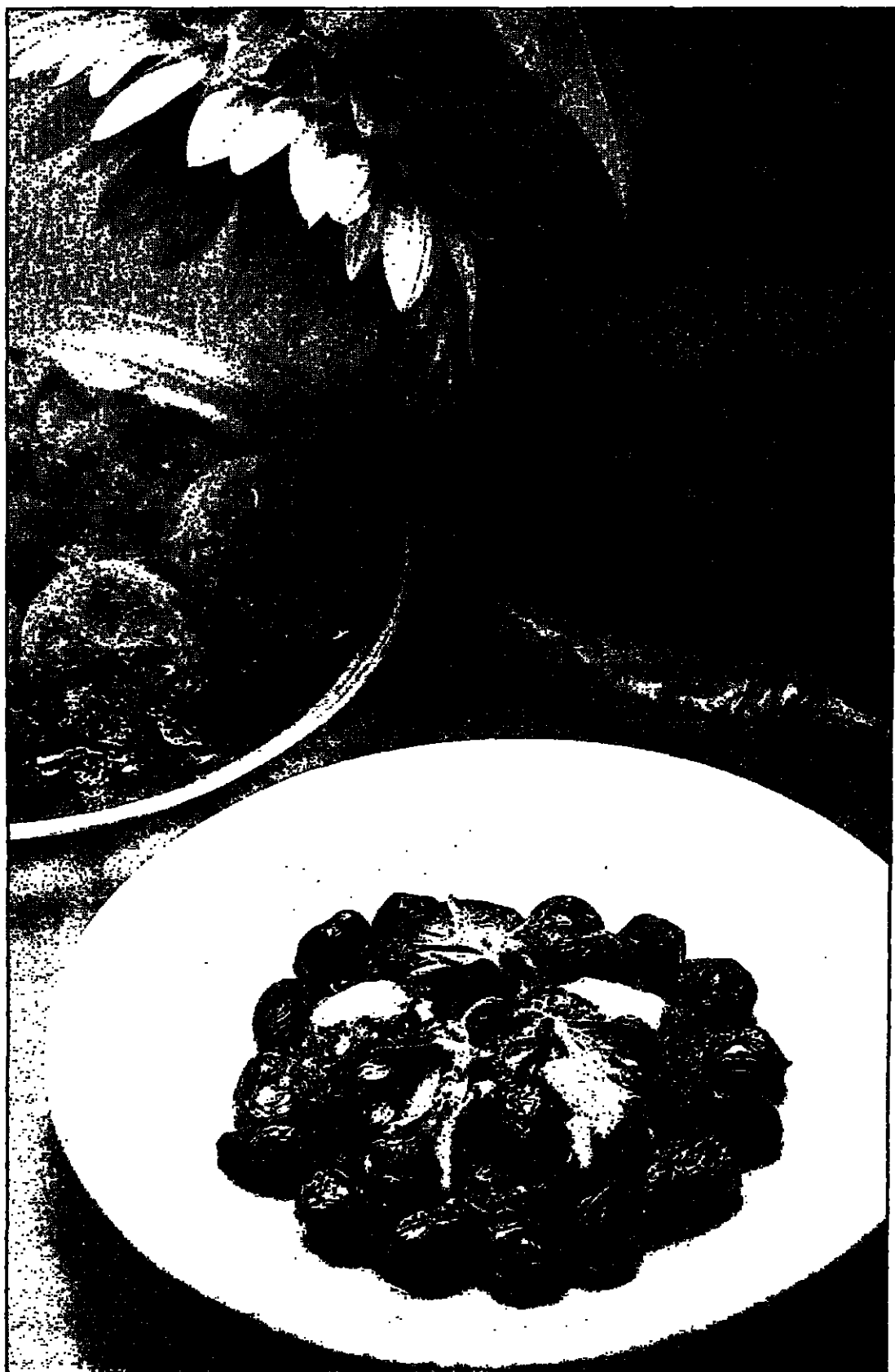
Realistically, however, commonly available greens such as watercress and Swiss chard may be substituted if you can't find mallow or corn poppy. (The book includes an excellent glossary on unusual greens and many mail-order sources.)

Her research does not always pan out, and she writes about that, too. In an open-air restaurant along the Turkish Black Sea coast in the town of Giresun, Wolfert discovered "a corn bread unlike any I'd ever eaten in my life." To make it, very milky corn is toasted and dried for eight hours, to ready the grain to accept enough water for dough. Wolfert tried making the bread with farmers' market corn, then with toasted dried corn, and finally with Mexican dried corn called "chacales" or "chicos."

"I feel bad," she writes, "for failing to reproduce the best corn bread I ever ate."

Oh, well, there's always another Black Sea recipe — the one for cornmeal wafers baked on collard greens, say.

And there are simple yet delicious-sounding ideas such as "the



best way I know" to prepare onions. "I learned from an Israeli Arab." Diced onions are cooked with a little water and oil in a covered skillet until limp; then the skillet is transferred, uncovered, to a medium oven, to cook for three hours with occasional stirring until the onion turns reddish brown. At the end, redden the oil by tilting the pan and shoving the onions up away from the oil with a slotted spoon. The oil goes toward the heat and the onions absorb far

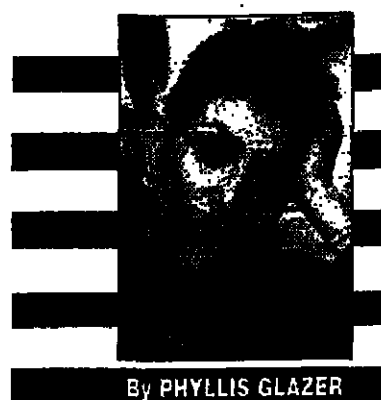
less that way.

On the other hand, carnaroli rice, best for risotto, likely is not available in your neighborhood supermarket. Wolfert is mindful of the fact that mail-ordering unusual ingredients is not for everyone.

"An adventure costs," she said. Yet the dishes Wolfert makes are earthy and satisfying, not pretentious. In fact, Wolfert pokes fun at "gastro porn" in which "the acidity of this is balanced by the sweetness of that." In her book, she

mentions health and nutrition just once, reporting that the wild greens eaten by Cretan snails may be what makes them so rich in healthful omega-3 fatty acids.

To write of nutrition would be "a scold," Wolfert said. She is a romantic, a food adventurer. (It is true that her blood level for triglycerides was 300 when she embarked on the book, and it is now 87. It must have something to do with greens, grains and olive oil, she surmises.)



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

778 Strawberry Jam (avoid)

One of my fondest memories from the first time I visited Israel — at age 12 — was of 778 Strawberry Jam. It had such a wonderful flavor. It was packed with whole strawberries, sugar and pectin. It was so good that on later visits I used to bring jars of it back to my high-school and college friends in the US, as presents that gave them a taste of the Holy Land.

Imagine my disappointment upon reading the ingredients listed in Hebrew on the label and discovering that good old 778 Strawberry Jam now contains "unidentified flavoring and aromatic materials" and a chemical to prevent foam. The front of the label says "no artificial coloring" and "no preservatives," but friends, it's just not the same.

There are enough jams, confitures etc. not to have to settle for one that uses artificial additives to boost its flavor. NIS 9.40.

Tilda basmati rice (excellent)

For those not in the know, basmati rice is a form of long-grain rice native to India that has become popular in recent years due to both its taste and fragrance. Over the past five years, several imported varieties have become available in supermar-

kets, souks and health-food stores, including a brown basmati rice that is very tasty.

Just a few days ago, I received another variety, a non-polished brown basmati rice grown on the Himalayan mountains in northern India (how exotic!) using pure water drawn from the melting snow. Although the rice has been grown by the Maharajah Tilda since 1905, due to the Arab boycott it was not available here until recently, when Alaska Ltd. in Ganot began importing it.

What makes it special? After growing in pure waters, the rice is held in a special pit for two years, along with bay laurel leaves. (Other basmati rices are aged for six months only.) After being specially checked to ensure that it is 100%, the rice is shipped to Israel and 39 other countries.

It's available now in supermarket chains and also is served at the Kapot Tamarim, Hilton, Sheraton and Dan hotels, and at Chimichanga, Dixie, Columbus and other restaurants. 1 kg. sells for NIS 13.90. The rice is certified kosher by Hacham Sofer and the Union of Orthodox Rabbis.

Celestial Seasonings teas (good)

My love affair with Celestial Seasonings teas started more than 20 years ago in America, when I was a college student and Celestial Seasonings was born. Its tea blends were revolutionary on the American market. Flavors like Red Zinger became popular in almost every student's home, and later, Celestial Seasonings added dozens of new flavors to its selection.

Phyllis' Tips

Although the original owners have sold out to a major conglomerate, the teas are still good, though lacking in that '70s soul. We tried Red Zinger and a variety box. They're still worth it. NIS 12.40 to NIS 13 for a box of 20.

Coffee seasoning kit (OK)

There were many people I knew who dreamed of creating a chain of premium espresso bars in Israel, and a few who succeeded. One of these is Ilan's.

Ilan's has just opened a new branch — at the Kiryat Atidim center in Tel Aviv's Ramat Hahayal section — and has just added low-fat cappuccino to its coffee menu. If you go there, you'll also find Ilan's coffee seasoning kit, a circular plastic container that contains separate compartments with vanilla (with decaffeinated and natural and artificial flavors), ground cinnamon, demerara sugar, and cocoa mixed with sugar, all designed to add to cappuccino.

Ilan's didn't invent the kit (my mother brought me a similar one years ago from the US), but he added his label to it. You can buy it for NIS 24.90 at Ilan's branches at Kiryat Atidim, the Ramat Aviv Mall, and in Tel Aviv on Ibn Gvirol and Carlebach streets. I don't need it since I have all the basics on hand already, but it's a cute gift to give, along with a couple of coffee mugs.

Just opened

A new wine store called Yayin Ve'od ("Wine and More") has just opened at 72 Rehov Pinhas Rozen in Tel Aviv. Tel. (03) 644-0202.

Back

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Just how much of a healthy substitute are the Tivoli soy cocktail hot dogs? I know they have no cholesterol, MSG, or sodium nitrate, but how does the salt content compare with the real thing, as well as whatever else they are made of?

Sometimes after sifting flour, I find a bug or two. This has even happened in a package of flour which was kept in the refrigerator and whose date had not expired. What is going on and can I still use the flour?

— Inez Caspi, Neveh Savyon

Whatever the soy hot dogs are made of, they are made of far healthier and higher-quality ingredients than most commercial hot dogs. They do have a high sodium content, and I wouldn't use them frequently, but if your children will eat them there is nothing wrong with serving them once in a while.

What is going on with the flour is that somewhere along the line it has been being improperly stored and was probably exposed to a warm enough environment to encourage infestation (or was stored next to infested products). This is unacceptable, and the flour should be returned to the store. I would not use the flour, because if there was a bug or two in it there are probably eggs in it as well.

I have a cake recipe that includes 1 Tbsp. syrup. Is it available in Israel? What substitute could I use? I don't like honey.

— Nomi Kalisch, Netanya

You didn't mention what kind of syrup, or where the recipe was from. An American recipe might mean corn syrup which is readily available there (and is also currently available at Supersol). A British recipe might mean Golden Syrup, which is also available in supermarkets, near the pancake mixes, baking powder, and other syrups.

Since the recipe only calls for 1 Tbsp. syrup, I'm sure you can leave it out and add a little more sugar, or try adding real maple syrup instead.

Phyllis Glazer can be contacted c/o The Jerusalem Post Magazine, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem, 91000, or by e-mail: phyllisglazer@jpost.co.il. Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine on Friday.

The following recipes are from Wolfert's new book, *Mediterranean Grains and Greens*.

'DRAGGED' GREENS WITH POTATO, GARLIC, PEPPERONCINO AND ROSEMARY

Beatrice Muzi of Flushing, NY, co-author with her husband, Allan Evans, of *La Cucina Picena*, a book in Italian on the cooking of the Marche, gave Wolfert this recipe.

450 gr. mixed leafy greens (such as chard, spinach and watercress or leaves of broccoli rabe or cabbage)
450 gr. boiling potatoes, not peeled
salt
2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
50 gr. smoked goose breast, diced
1 tsp. fresh rosemary or more to taste
½ tsp. minced garlic
pinch of red pepper
freshly ground black pepper
pickled green peppers (pepperoncino) for garnish (optional)

Bring a large saucepan of water to a rapid boil. Meanwhile strip greens and discard stems and any tough parts, then wash leaves in several changes of water. If using broccoli rabe, cut into 2.5cm. chunks to make about 10 cups.

Add salt to the water, then add greens and potatoes and cook until both are tender, about 10 minutes. (Keep greens submerged while boiling so they don't lose color.) Drain in a colander; press on the greens to press out moisture. Spread out on a wooden board to cool down.

When potatoes are cool enough to handle, peel and crush them with 1 tsp. olive oil with the back of a fork.

Finely chop greens, or crush broccoli rabe.

Heat remaining olive oil and smoked goose breast in 20cm. seasoned cast-iron or nonstick skillet. Cook gently until meat softens. Add rosemary, garlic, red pepper, greens and potatoes and cook over medium-high heat, turning often with a spatula to blend greens and potato as they

are "dragged" through oil, about 5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper.

Serve hot with a sprinkling of coarse salt and freshly milled pepper on top and pickled peppers on the side, if desired. (Serves 2.)

MOROCCAN MIXED WILD GREENS SALAD WITH PRESERVED LEMONS AND OLIVES

In Morocco, this cooked dip is usually made with mallow leaves that grow wild, Wolfert writes. You could start with a mix of greens from the supermarket, possibly adding chard.

This "should melt on your tongue," she writes. If it isn't creamy enough, beat in extra olive oil.

6 cups mallow or mixed leafy, mild-flavored greens
1 cup flat-leaf parsley leaves, chopped
3 cloves garlic, unpeeled
½ cup coriander leaves, roughly chopped
¼ tsp. salt plus more to taste
3 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil plus more for finishing
¼ tsp. sweet paprika
pinch of hot red pepper
¼ tsp. ground cumin or more to taste
juice of ½ lemon or more to taste
¼ preserved lemon (see below)
12 Moroccan oil-cured olives, pitted and soaked in several batches of water to remove salt

Wash greens until water runs clear. Drain, stem and chop roughly. Steam greens, parsley and garlic until tender, about 15 minutes. Cool greens, then squeeze out moisture and chop finely.

Peel garlic, place in a mortar with coriander and salt, and crush to a paste.

Heat 3 Tbsp. olive oil in 25cm. skillet, add garlic paste and chopped greens. Cook over medium-low heat until liquid has evaporated, turning mixture often to avoid burning, about 10 minutes.

Add paprika, hot pepper, cumin and lemon juice. Cool slightly. Beat in enough oil to make texture similar to whipped potatoes. Cover and refrigerate at least 1 hour.

Correct seasoning with more salt, cumin and lemon juice if nec-

essary; whip once more to lighten mixture.

Rinse preserved lemon and remove pulp, then slice peel into slivers. Shape greens mixture into a smooth hemisphere and decorate with slivered lemon peel and olives. (Serves 4.)

PAULA WOLFERT'S QUICK SEVEN-DAY PRESERVED LEMONS

Scrub 2 ripe lemons and dry well. Cut each into 8 wedges. Toss with ½ cup coarse sea salt and place in a small glass jar with a glass or plastic-coated lid. Add ½ cup fresh lemon juice. Close jar tightly; let lemons ripen at room temperature for 7 days, shaking jar each day to distribute salt and juice. To store longer, add olive oil to cover and refrigerate.

ALICANTE-STYLE TORTILLA WITH GREEN GARLIC

Savory cooks are growing their own garlic shoots these days. Just stick cloves of garlic in a pot, give them water and sun, and you'll have a tangy green in mid-winter for this Spanish tortilla (that's an omelet in Spain) and other dishes.

24 green garlic shoots (or mixture of minced garlic and lightly blanched scallions)
1½ Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
salt
4-5 large, fresh eggs
freshly ground black pepper

Clean green garlic by cutting away root ends and tough green tops. Use the white part as well as pale green stalk. Cut into 2.5cm. pieces. Put in nonstick skillet with 1 tsp. olive oil, ¼ cup water and pinch of salt, and cook, covered, over low heat until tender, about 5 minutes. Boil off any liquid.

Beat eggs until well blended and season with salt and pepper. Shake skillet so green garlic spreads evenly. Add remaining oil to skillet. Add eggs; set over medium-low heat, cover, and cook 2-3 minutes, or until top is just set.

Turn out onto a warm 30cm. serving plate. (Eggs will continue to cook.)

Serve hot or warm, cut into wedges. (Serves 2.)

(Newsday)

سكنا من الارض

Going down to the crossroads

Close Encounters

By Allan Rabinowitz

A village dating back some 4,800 years and an Israelite fortress spanning the entire First Temple period from Solomon to the defeat of the Judean kingdom by the Babylonians can both be found in the Tel Arad National Park.

The smallness of the site belies its importance throughout ancient history and the compactness of the ruins belies the significant dramas unfolded here.

The Canaanite village in the shallow valley and the Israelite citadel on the adjacent hilltop are distinct and separate parts of the park. From the parapets of the citadel, some 575 meters high, you take in a tremendous view of the desert before you.

That view illustrates how ancient Arad lay on a crossroad near the confluence of several distinct regions: the Judean Hills, the Judean Desert, the trench of the Dead Sea, the plain of Beersheba and the northern Negev Desert.

About eight kilometers to the east, modern Arad shoots up from the desert floor; just beyond lies the ancient route that dropped down to the Dead Sea, over 400 meters below sea level, and across the Arava to Moab and Edom.

To the south, across a wide plain, stretch the rippled hills of the Negev Desert, and to the west extends the plain that led to ancient Beersheba and the ancient ports of Ashkelon and Gaza beyond.

Above the citadel's hill, to the north, loom higher hills, which



From the parapets of Tel Arad's citadel, some 575 meters high, you take in a tremendous view of the desert. (Photos: Ariel Jerolimski)

form the southern flank of the great stony spine that stretches to Hebron and further north to Jerusalem.

Arad served for almost 500 years as the southern bastion for Israel's heartland. You can clearly see how the hills scale down and merge into the Beersheba plain.

And if you were to drive north up that spine, you'd also see how the eastern slopes drop into the buckled, barren Judean wilderness, the ancient sanctuary of prophets and rebels.

THE fortress was evidently destroyed and rebuilt several times during the First Temple period.

When Solomon built his port on the Gulf of Eilat, Arad became an important link in the security chain. And when Uzziah "built towers in the desert, and dug many wells" [2 Chronicles 14: 10], this fortress served as a regional military and administrative center.

The sentries who stood upon these walls and patrolled the plains to the south would have been particularly alert to intrusions by the Edomites, the desert tribe who had outposts nearby.

What artifact in this small fortress can one really latch onto? The gate, once towered, through which Israelite soldiers marched almost 3,000 years ago? The water channels into which they poured the water that they hauled up from the well in the gully below?

No, it's got to be the puzzling and provocative worship center, modeled after the Temple in Jerusalem. The sanctity of this shrine - which included a courtyard, a sacrificial altar built of fieldstones (complying with specifications listed in Exodus 20:24-25), smaller altars probably used for incense and two monolithic standing stones inside the holy niche - was probably maintained for hundreds of years.

Evidence of the dismantling of the cultic complex probably corresponds to the religious reform of King Josiah in the late seventh century BCE, when he "defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba [2 Kings 23:8]."

Weekender Travel

But the richest finds from Arad are those we can't see here - the largest and most varied collection of First Temple period inscriptions found in Israel (some are on display at the Israel Museum).

These ostraca (messages on pottery fragments), which include lists of names, supply allocations, and military commands from Jerusalem, give the impression of a front-line frontier outpost.

One inscription, probably from the time of King Hezekiah (late eighth century BCE) concerned conflicts with the Edomites. Many relate to Elyashiv, son of Ashiyahu, commander of the fortress, perhaps even during the last days before the Kingdom of Judah collapsed before the Babylonian invasion in 586 BCE.

Walk down the hill from the Israelite fortress, perhaps 200 meters, and you drop back in time another 2,000 years, to a Canaanite settlement going back to the Early Bronze Age, 2700-2900 BCE. This is really amazing, because here you do not just glimpse a fragment of the past through a jumble of layers.

Follow the route through this 100-dunam settlement as laid out in the park's brochure, and you will be walking through streets where people congregated almost 5,000 years ago - past the double temple.

the wide stone walls with their semicircular towers, and houses as uniformly designed as those in any modern suburban development.

This Arad was a commercial trade center for copper produced from as far away as the Sinai Peninsula, as well as products from Egypt and Arabia.

Amazingly, it seems to have prospered in a place without a spring. Inhabitants took advantage of the impermeability of the rock formation to gather water in a reservoir in the center of the settlement (the well located at that spot now, at the bottom of the hill, was dug later, by the Israelites, and then renovated by King Herod).

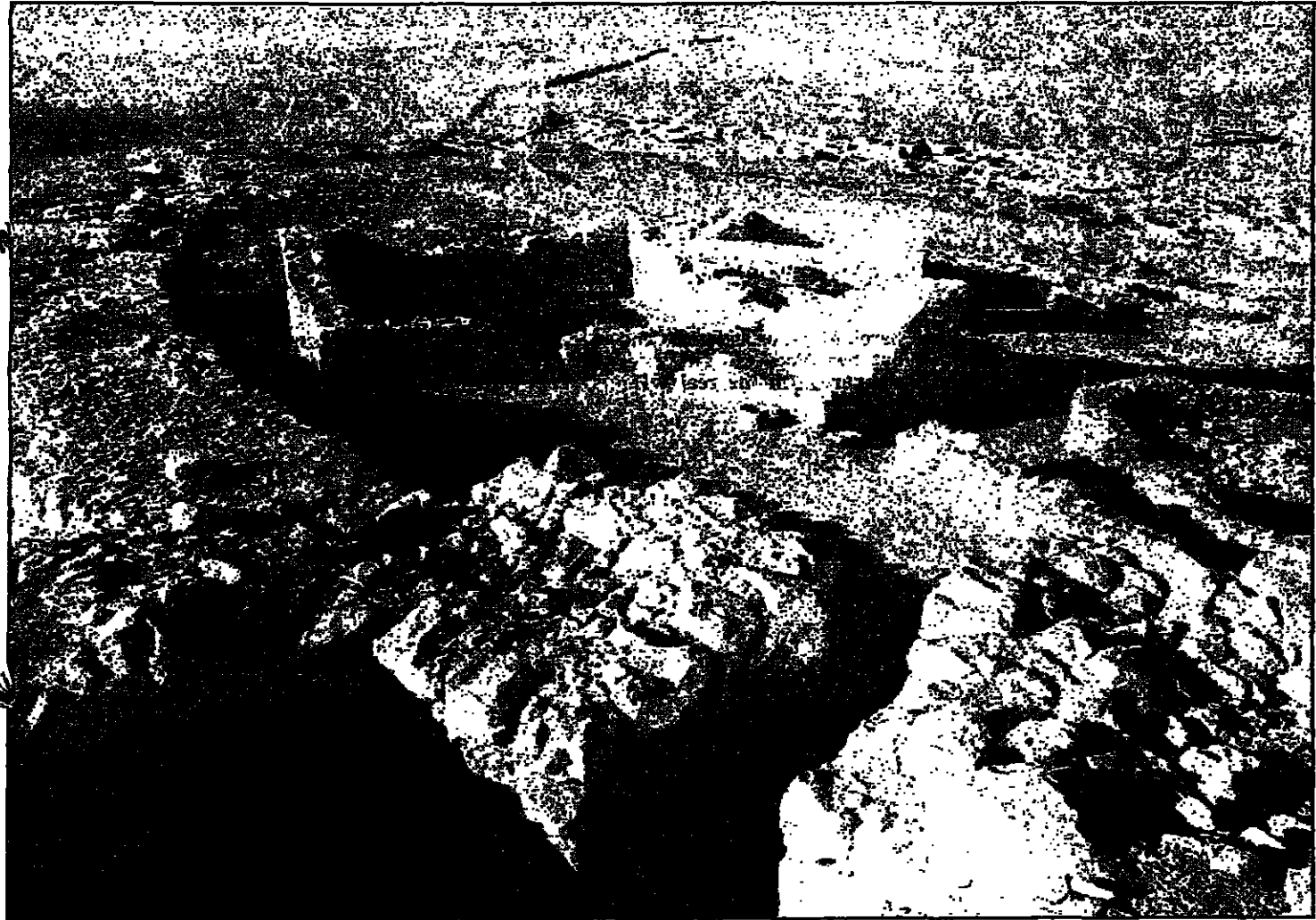
This Canaanite site was later destroyed, and left abandoned for some 1,500 years. No layer of remains corresponds to Numbers 21:1, in which "The King of Arad the Canaanite, who dwelt in the south, heard tell that Israel came by the way of the spies; then he fought against Israel and took some of them prisoners."

Perhaps, as some scholars maintain, this "Arad" referred to one of the nearby archeological mounds.

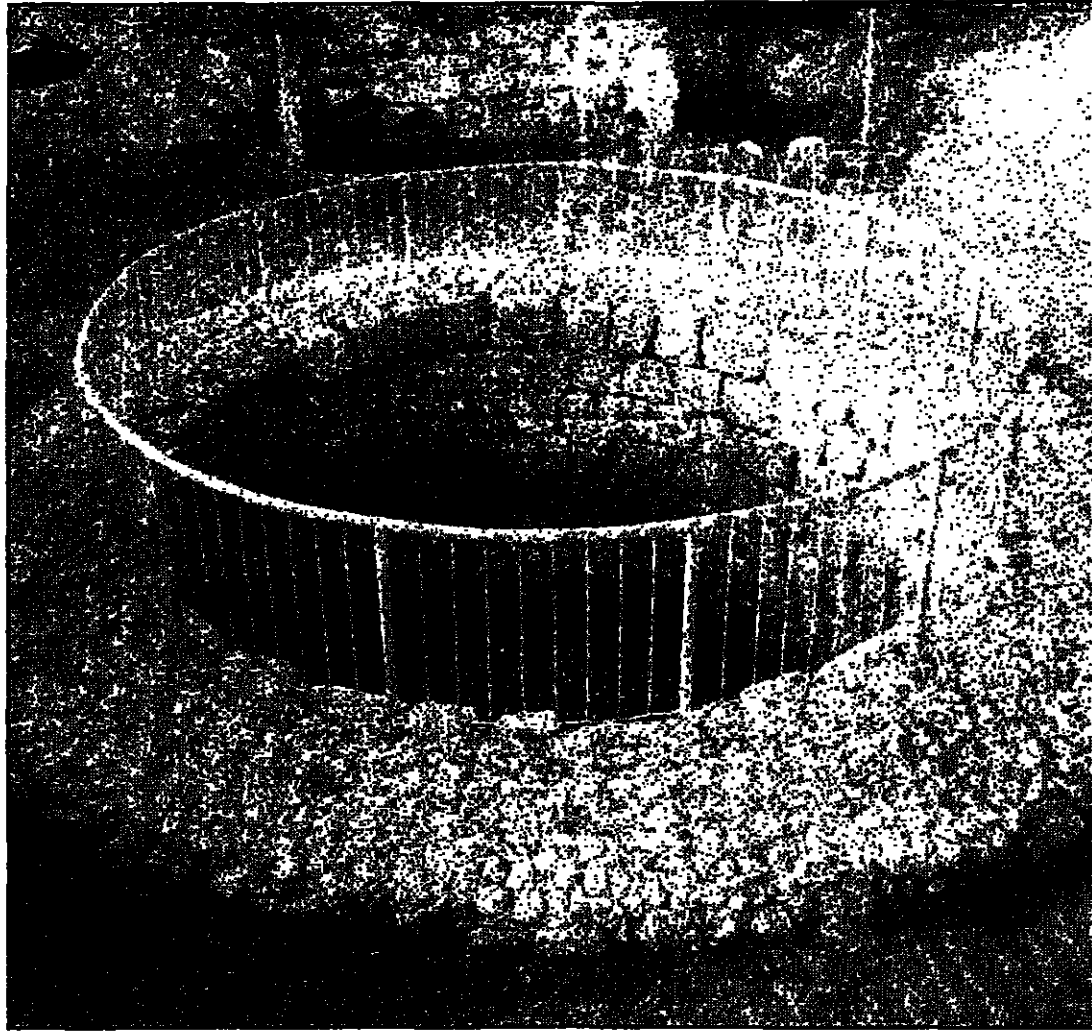
In any case, it is clear that this site played a crucial, long-standing role as guardian of the fertile hills and heartland to the north.

Tel Arad National Park is open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. daily, Friday to 3 p.m. (07) 681-1020.

Allan Rabinowitz is a licensed tour guide. He can be reached at allan@jpost.co.il



The fortress was destroyed and rebuilt several times during the First Temple period.

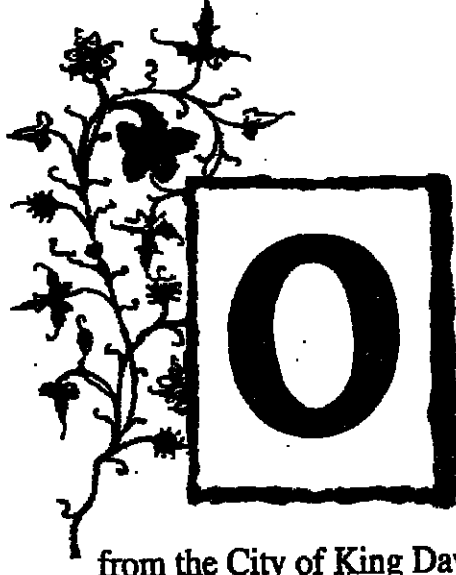


The well found at the site was dug by the Israelites, and then renovated by King Herod.

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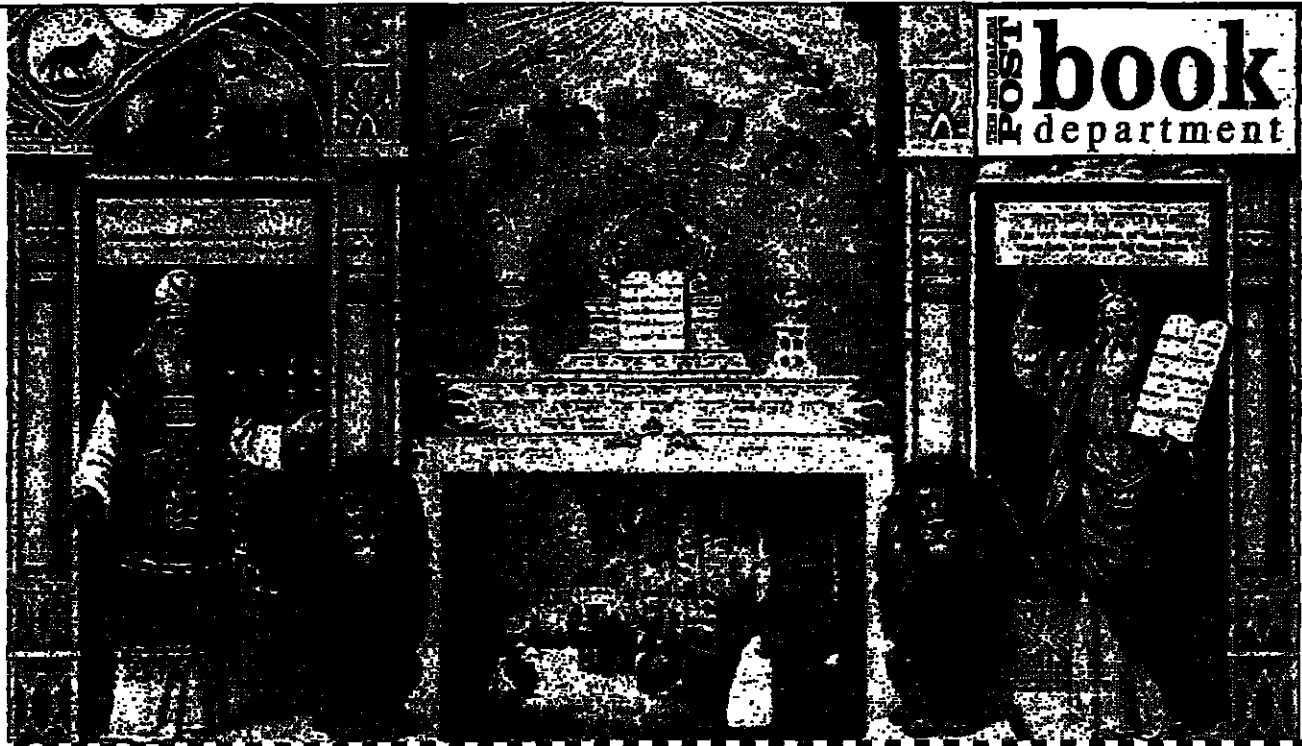
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Prints from 'Keeping the Light' exhibit at Beth Hatefutsoth: Synagogue Lane, Cochin, South India, 1990s (Photos: Suzon Fuks)

India's Jewish landscape

On Camera

By DAVID BRAUNER

After Suzon Fuks got married, she laid out a big lunch and invited the whole Jewish community — all the congregations.

A perfectly natural thing for a Jewish bride to do. It happens in many corners of the world. But it doesn't happen very often these days in Cochin, Kerala, in south-west India.

One other thing was different about Fuks's reception. She treated her guests to an exhibition of her work in progress. The photographs depict the lives of the very people who joined the newly married couple that day.

Fuks, an artist and photographer, paid a lightning visit to Israel from Australia for the opening of her exhibition on Cochin Jewry, "Keeping the Light: A Diary of South India," last week at Beth Hatefutsoth in Tel Aviv.

Fuks lived among and photographed the Jewish and larger communities of the Cochin region from August 1993 to May 1996. She was born in 1959 in Belgium to parents who had spent the war in hiding and had "kept within themselves their Jewish identity."

In 1993, Fuks struck out in search of her own roots, "my Judaism," not to Israel, where her grandparents lived, but to India. She'd read that the subcontinent was one of the most tolerant places in world, a land where anti-Semitism never raged.

"It is also a place where I could take time, do things in my own rhythm and my own way," she

says, in beautifully French-accented English.

SHE spent the first five months living and working in a Pondicherry ashram. She studied books about Judaism, and found Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz's symbolic approach to the festivals in *Le Chandelier d'Or* ("The Golden Chandelier") particularly "nourishing."

She also learned from her reading that "the Jews of Cochin were one of the oldest communities in Asia."

Tradition has it that Jews first arrived on the Malabar Coast with King Solomon's fleet. More Jews are said to have come to India with the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE. At its height in modern times, the community numbered 2,500, with eight active synagogues. Most emigrated to Israel, leaving behind only about 70 older people and one functioning synagogue.

Fuks geared her arrival in Cochin for the High Holy Days. At first she had no intention of documenting the community. "I just wanted to meet them," she says.

It was not easy, because the last active synagogue, the Paradesi in "Jewtown," attracts many tourists. It took time for the Cochin Jews to accept her.

"It would have been easier if I had been a man, because I could have made a minyan," she notes. But she soon learned to appreciate



(Inset) Portrait of Suzon Fuks; (Top and above) Day of Atonement, Parur, South India, 1990s

ate her sex, because she learned much from the women about Judaism, spirituality and many of the local culinary customs.

Fuks decided to make serious photographic study of them, "to make a trace for future generations" before all was lost. She returned to Europe to prepare herself technically. Although a multimedia artist, she still chose, mostly black-and-white photography for its intimacy.

DURING this period of her work, she met and married James, an Australian dancer, who was in India for traditional herbal oil treatment of his arm, which had become paralyzed in a motorcycle

accident. After their wedding, the couple rented a house, and Fuks set up a darkroom. But she soon gave up trying to print her own pictures, and only developed her films.

Cochin's fungus-breeding tropical climate proved a plague for her equipment, negatives and slides. Photographic paper and chemicals were not easy to come by. And there were other problems, the photographer explains:

"With the power cuts and change of voltage all the time, you have to be an Indian to know how to print. They don't use electric clocks to time exposures. They just count. According to the fluctuations of the [enlarger] light, they

count more or less."

Her work routine revolved around the daily grind of living. Water had to be fetched from city supplies, grain cleaned and milled for baking bread, and coconuts brought down from the trees, for which a "coconut climber" must be hired, because there's a kind of union.

Fuks made her constant photographic rounds of the communities by ferry and cycle. The Paradesi, or "white" Jews, mostly reside in and around Cochin's Jewtown, while the Malabari, or "black" Jews, live scattered in smaller, countryside villages.

Today with so few members left, the Jews of Cochin prefer to see

Bridge Alarm-clock signal

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

North dealer
North-South vulnerable

North	East
♠ A K 7 2	♠ Q 8 3
♥ 9 7 6 5 2	♥ A K
♦ 7 4	♦ 10 6 3
♣ 8 6	♣ K J 7 4 2

West	North	East	South
♠ J 6	♠ -	♠ -	♠ -
♥ Q 8 4 3	♥ -	♥ -	♥ -
♦ A K Q J 8 5	♦ -	♦ -	♦ -
♣ 5	♣ -	♣ -	♣ -

Opening lead: ♠10

The Israeli Simultaneous is one of the most popular events on the local bridge calendar. In this tournament, the boards are duplicated not only throughout the bridge club, but throughout the country!

The most recent Simultaneous was played on November 14. I was privileged to write up the deals for the hand analysis, which is given to the players after the game. All the deals are computer dealt, and I'm not permitted to fool with them.

The most interesting hand of the night was the deal you can see in the diagram. It demonstrates many important ideas about defensive signaling and matchpoint play. Before we get to these items, let's look at the bidding and the opening lead.

East opens the bidding one club and West responds one diamond. North has the right shape for a takeout double but not enough highcards, so he must pass.

Now East should rebid one notrump and West will raise to game. The contract now hinges on the opening lead. Normally South would lead from his strong club suit, but after the one-club opening bid, South should forgo his clubs and lead a spade.

It's true that East could have a "short" club (only three cards), but then he might have rebid a four-card major instead of one notrump.

Nevertheless, at team scoring or at rubber bridge, the best lead is probably a low club. A club lead gives South the easiest

chance to defeat the contract (when his partner has the king or jack). But a spade opening lead is better strategy at matchpoint scoring, where overtricks carry more weight in the scoring.

If you look at all four hands, you'll see that a spade lead actually permits the defenders to defeat the contract. North can win the spade lead and shift to the 8 of clubs. This finesse East, the declarer, and no matter what he plays on the club lead, the jack or the king, South can win and return a spade to his partner's ace for another club lead through. The defense takes the first five tricks and congratulations are in order.

In real life, however, bridge is not so easy. Consider the deal from North's point of view. North is delighted to see the spade opening lead. He wins the trick with the king and considers the possibility that either (a) partner has led from a five-card suit or (b) partner has led from Q-10-9-x.

In either case, it is best to continue spades by leading the ace at trick two. North watches East's card, hoping that the queen drops. When it does not, he still has to decide what to play at trick three.

The difference between matchpoint play and total points is important. In my scenario, the defenders have failed to defeat the contract, but holding the contract to nine tricks may still produce an excellent score at matchpoints.

North should base his play to trick three on whether he thinks partner has the queen of spades. To help partner, South should play the nine of spades under the ace. Since he has already played the 10, the play of the 9 now would deny the queen. The queen and 9 are equal at this point, and he would have played the queen to show a sequence if he had it.

When North sees the 9 (a play known in some circles as an "alarm-clock" signal), North will realize that a shift is his best bet, especially "looking" at the solid diamond suit in dummy. A club shift is "better late than never" and "will" allow the defense to collect four tricks, holding East to a score of 400 points, while most of the declarers in the East seat across the country are making 10 tricks for plus 430.

Matthew Granovetter can be reached at Mat@bridgetoday.com.

themselves as a united community, without distinguishing between white and black.

They are very proud that enough members of the community are learned enough for there to be no need of a rabbi. They have a *shofet* for chicken slaughtering only, so people eat vegetarian meals except on Shabbat and festivals.

The more Westernized Paradesi tend to work in the professions and many own land; the Malabari, who live more in tune with the less materialistic Hindu lifestyle, traditionally occupied themselves in the egg and poultry sector. Most of the community's members, though, are now beyond working age.

The seven non-functioning synagogues, once the heart of Jewish life, have met varying fates.

The Ernakulum Synagogue has been converted into a plant nursery which, says Fuks, "in a way is really nice, because the plants keep a soul in the building. It's better than seeing some of the other synagogues that are totally abandoned, where no one goes."

ASKED how she supported her project, Fuks pays special tribute to her Belgian patron, Philippe Aisnber, who loves photography and follows her work. She also received grants from the Memorial Foundation for

Jewish Culture in New York, the Commonwealth Jewish Council in London, and others.

The exhibit is a photographic diary which follows a one-year cycle of Jewish life. Each panel contains two photos, one large and one small, plus a handwritten line or two of explanation.

The images are framed in a black border to suggest a look-in through a window.

The title of the show, "Keeping the Light," is not a borrowed quotation.

"I wanted a title that talks about photography and also about the fervor of the people," Fuks says. "Before Shabbat they take light from the *ner tamid* [the continually burning light in the synagogue] to their homes. To keep the light is to keep the faith alive."

Your photography questions and comments are welcome. Contact David Brauner, e-mail: morir@mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for David" in the subject line) or fax 02-563-7792 or c/o Photo Archives, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Chess will return next week



At Gortex, suits are the order of the day.

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Not a single member of the Gottlieb family, founders of Gortex, Israel's most widely known fashion company, was present yesterday at the unveiling of the Gortex fall/winter tailored collection.

There's no *brogue*, according to Gortex managing director Simcha Kynan. Some of the family are abroad, he said, while others are busy getting the Gortex 2000 swimwear collection afloat.

The new winter gear was shown at the old traditional House of Gortex at the entrance to Tel Aviv and not in its new factory plant. Since it was acquired by Africa Israel, the Gortex marketing policy, said Kynan, has been to maintain swimwear as its main line while branching out into children's wear, footwear, lingerie, franchised ready-to-wear and cosmetics.

The truly radical change is that most of the company's output is manufactured abroad — in Italy, to

A tailored image

be exact. Why? Well, for one thing, it's a lot cheaper than manufacturing in Israel.

"We picked Italy and not Jordan," explained Kynan, "because we're not producing commodities. We're selling quality fashion."

Although the collection was conceived by Israeli designer Anat Hefetz, it has Italian creative input, quality standards and chic, said Kynan.

But the fashion writers who came to view this new effort did not see the entire collection. There's a whole range of evening wear and knits which are yet to come, promised Hefetz.

Despite the lacuna, the good news is that Gortex is not only

expanding its range but also its sizes. One no longer has to be slim and trim to get into a Gortex creation — though of course it helps. Sizes now run the gamut from 38 to 46 after a survey conducted by the company indicated that large-sized women who want to dress

Flair

well would buy Gortex if they could find garments that fit them.

Because the Israeli winter is short — and not very cold compared to Europe, the US and parts of Asia — the fabrics are lightweight synthetics blended with wool and silk.

The silhouette is neat and

straight.

The colors follow the general trend of shades of gray, burgundy, olive green, tobacco and deep coffee browns, which are livened up with lighter-toned blouses in similar hues.

Suits are the order of the day — long, straight jackets with high-cut revers and slits in the back worn over straight legged fly-fronted pants — both cuffed and uncuffed — or straight skirts with back slits.

Nothing is more pleasing to a fashion writer than to watch a show against the backdrop of a well-stocked showroom. One can then immediately pounce on the racks to finger the fabrics and check the prices.

The fabrics have wool, satin, velvet and suede surfaces — all of

them ersatz. The jackets are almost long enough to be coats, and the coats themselves are square-shouldered and maxi-length with a deep slit in the back.

People who've been used to paying a lot for Gortex will be pleasantly surprised. Yes, the suits are still pricey at NIS 899-NIS 1,190, as are the jackets at NIS 699-NIS 899. But separates are quite reasonable. Pants are priced at NIS 249 to NIS 299; skirts at NIS 229 to NIS 259; blouses at NIS 179 to NIS 249 and knits from NIS 179 to NIS 199.

And the best news for those who like velvet and velour, but are tired of the crushed versions, is that there's a whole new variety of velvet textures from which to choose, as well as choices in style that run from tunic tops to close-fitting turtle necks and button-through shirts.

P.S. Although most of the Gortex skirts hover above the knee, the velvets reach to the ankle.



One no longer has to be ultra slim to get into a Gortex.

صكدا من الاصل

Thursday,
November 26, 1998

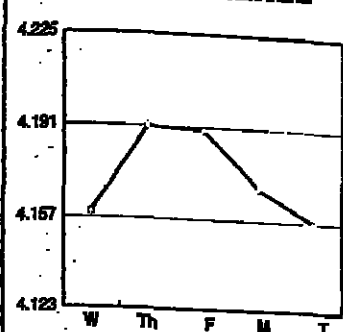
BUSINESS & FINANCE

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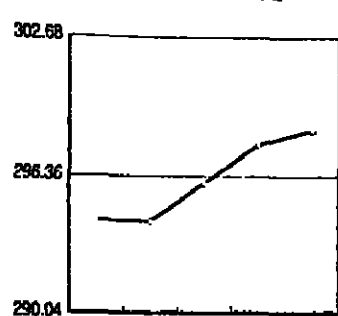
MARKETS

in brief

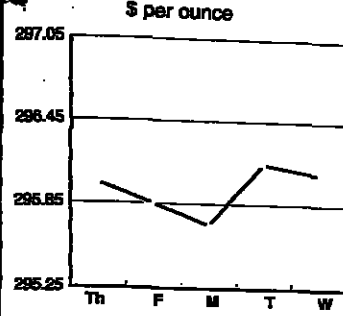
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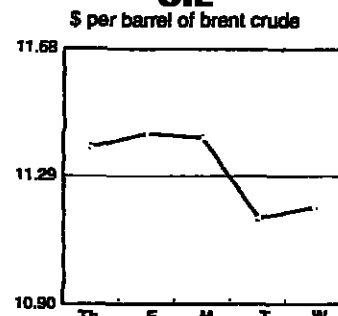
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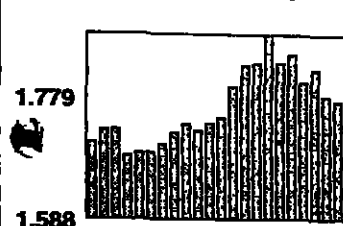
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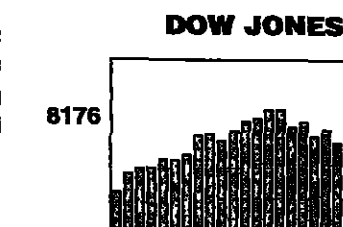
OIL



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



Eisenberg, DSW ink China potash deal

The Eisenberg group of companies and Dead Sea Works yesterday signed the final agreement with the Chinese government for the establishment of a potash plant at a total investment of \$490 million. The factory will be operated by the Mingda Corp., a government-held company, which will own 60 percent of the joint venture.

The plant will be constructed in Golmud in the Qinghai region. The joint company will be called the Sino Israel Qinghai Potash Corp. The plant, which is to be completed within three years, will employ 1,500 workers and will have an annual production capacity of 860,000 tons.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Level 8 to buy US company for \$21m.

Level 8, a subsidiary of Liraz Systems, announced Tuesday it will acquire software-application-developer Seer Technologies for \$21.25 million.

In a statement Liraz said that the deal will lead to an immediate rise in its subsidiary sales from \$45m. to over \$100m. The company added that the merger of the two companies, which are both traded on Nasdaq, will allow Liraz to expand its international activity.

Under the terms of the agreement, Level 8 will acquire 70 percent of the outstanding shares held by private investment firm Welsh, Carson, Anderson and Stowe (WCAS). In return WCAS will receive one million shares in Level 8, which are worth some \$7.25m.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Koor's net falls 54% on restructuring

Koor Industries yesterday announced that third quarter net income fell 54.1 percent to \$16.7 million from \$36.4m. during the corresponding period last year.

Israel's largest holding company said the decline is mainly due to losses at Telrad and decrease in domestic activity. Earlier this month, Koor announced the layoff of some 1,000 workers at Telrad at a total cost of about NIS 150m.

The company said that revenues for the third quarter rose 4.4% to \$799.5m. from \$765.9m. mainly due to increased sales of subsidiaries Tadiran and Makhteshim-Agan Industries. It added that the results were also affected by the depreciation of the shekel.

Koor noted that exports grew by 5.1% during the quarter to \$393m. offsetting somehow a decline in

local demand resulting from the slowing economy.

The company said that since the beginning of this year it divested its holdings in Gvanim, Granite, Soltam, Tambour, Home Center, Shalom, Pri Hagalit, and Hornet with total proceeds of more than \$200m.

For the first three quarters, net income was \$60.8m., compared with \$124.1m. a year earlier, while revenues fell to \$2.32b. from \$2.43b.

Bezeq 3rd qtr. net up 77%

Bezeq's third quarter net profit surged 77% to NIS 228.3 million from NIS 129.3m. a year ago, the company said yesterday.

It added that revenues for the quarter rose 12.5% to NIS 2.35 billion. The company attributed the

rise in profitability to lower costs arising from its restructuring plan.

Net profit for the first nine months was \$76.7m. compared with a net loss of NIS 301.9m. in 1997.

In a statement, Bezeq said that the loss recorded last year was an outcome of a one time charge for the restructuring of the company. Excluding the impact of this charge, net profit for the first nine months rose by NIS 97m. Revenues for the first nine months rose by only 0.8% to NIS 6.81b. from NIS 6.76b. a year ago.

The company said that operational profit from international

phone services fell by NIS 169m., following the opening of the market to competition.

The company added that it was not affected by the depreciation of the shekel, as it has hedged the risk in advance, leading to a 44% decline in financial costs to NIS 260m. since the beginning of the year. At the same time, general costs rose 2.9% mainly due to a rise in wages.

Tefahot's net down 79%

Tefahot Israel Mortgage Bank yesterday reported that third quarter net profit fell 79.1% to NIS 10.77 million from NIS 51.56m. a year ago as the economic slowdown affected borrowers ability to repay.

Net profit for the first nine months plunged 46% to NIS 70.8 million from NIS 131.9m. a year ago.

The bank attributed the decline to the impact of the consumer price index's calculation method, saying that if this effect was neutralized net profit would have fallen by 24%, mainly due to a rise in the provision for doubtful debt, which rose to NIS 26.2m. from NIS 10.5m. a year ago.

The provision for contractors' doubtful debt surged to NIS 32.3m. from NIS 4.4m. a year ago, as more real estate companies faced difficulties.

The economic slowdown also led to a 15% decline in the credit taken by individuals to NIS 13b. with the number of clients entitled to Housing Ministry grants exercising their right falling by 17%. This trend was clearly seen among the new immigrants, where the was a 32% decline.

Spacenet, MCI ink \$100m. VSAT deal

By NICKY BLACKBURN

GE Spacenet Inc., recently acquired by Gilat Satellite Networks, announced it has won a record order worth about \$100 million for Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) sites.

GE Spacenet, a world leader in providing global communication networks and services, is to provide 26,000 terminals and related hub stations to MCI Worldcom Government Markets Division, which will then provide VSAT network services to the US Postal Service.

The VSAT network will connect the various US postal service sites and allow for a wide range of applications such as point of sales, credit card processing, package delivery confirmation, remote monitoring, and many other tasks.

Petah Tikva-based Gilat, which designs, develops, manufactures, and markets VSAT satellite earth stations and hub equipment, bought US-based GE Spacenet in September of this year. The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Gilat.

The order, the largest in the company's history, gives Gilat access to more than 100 customers and boosts its current backlog from \$210 million to a record \$310 million.

Lehman Brothers said the deal highlights the advantages of VSAT over competing technologies.

"The combined company Gilat and GE Spacenet may be well positioned to further expand into the US, European, and Latin American markets," a report from Lehman Brothers said.

Earlier this month GE Spacenet announced that it had been selected by BP Oil to provide a Skysat Advantage VSAT network to more than 1,500 BP service-station convenience stores nationwide.

Neeman threatens to withdraw budget

By DAVID ZEY HARRIS

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman yesterday threatened to withdraw the 1999 state budget from the Knesset if MKs fail to approve the budgetary arrangements bill when it has its first reading next week.

If this indeed happens, the country will have to operate on the basis of the 1998 budget, with the only addition being linkage to the consumer price index. After three months of the new year, the government will fall unless a budget is passed.

"The results of this will be terrible for the economy, if Israel appears before the world without a budget," Neeman told reporters during a briefing at his office.

Neeman's comments came after coalition MKs prevented the previous attempt to pass the bill at its first reading stage some three weeks ago. The bill, together with the state budget bill, has become a pawn in the ongoing political battle between the supporters and opponents of the Wye peace accord.

His commitment to the importance of passing the budget without breaching the 2 percent of gross domestic product budget deficit target was backed yesterday by Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel.

"The real tool [for restoring growth] is the budget together with economic reform," said Frenkel in a meeting with the Knesset Finance Committee. "Despite media reports to the contrary, monetary policy is not the central element."

Speaking to journalists after attending a meeting of the Knesset Finance Committee, Frenkel said the budget must be approved without breaking the 2% deficit mark.

The committee yesterday failed to send Abraham Shohat's (Labor) Bank of Israel governors bill to its first reading. Following a technical and political debate as to which is the appropriate forum for discussing the bill - which calls for Frenkel's power to be clipped -



Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel (center) is flanked by Knesset Finance Committee chairman Abraham Ravitz (left) and MK Abraham Shohat at yesterday's committee meeting. (Isaac Harris)

chairman Abraham Ravitz decided his committee should begin a discussion of the bill on Monday.

Shohat's bill, supported by Meir Sheerit (Likud) and Abraham Poraz (Shinui), is not a reform of the 1954 Bank of Israel Law, which Frenkel said is the preferred course of action.

"You can't set up a body without saying what its role are," he explained.

The central bank believes the question of who should make key monetary policy decisions should be only one of four parts of a new

central bank law:

- The law should stipulate the goals of the central bank. In Frenkel's view this includes the need to achieve price stability.
- The legislation must also lay down the instruments available to the bank in order to establish its independence in achieving achieving targets.
- There must be directives for disclosure and transparency.
- The law should then decide who makes the monetary decisions. Here, Frenkel is proposing a monetary board, comprising inde-

pendent professionals with no ties to government or business.

Frenkel also indicated he would not resign if the 1999 inflation target is increased above the current 4%. On Sunday, the cabinet is scheduled to discuss this target, which several ministers led by Silvan Shalom and Natan Sharansky believe should be raised to some 6%.

Both Frenkel and Neeman denied they have been pressured by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to agree to increase the 4% goal.

Koreans rising from financial ruins

South Korea claims to be the first Asian state to be rising from the financial ruins of the global economic crisis, and its trade minister arrived in Israel yesterday at the head of a large delegation, keen to show that the country is back in serious business.

Commerce, Industry and Energy Minister Park Tae-young said the three main goals of the visit were to expand bilateral trade, currently running at \$900 million a year, to seek Israeli investments in Korea, and to get Korean companies more involved in Israeli projects.

Park was accompanied by 45 senior officials from the government and from many of Korea's biggest enterprises including Hyundai, Samsung Aerospace, Samsung Electronics and Daewoo, plus representatives from the Korean Federation of Industries.

"In the new world of globalization, national borders are increasingly becoming meaningless," Park said in a joint interview with The Jerusalem Post and Globes in Tel Aviv. It is only through companies finding areas of mutual cooperation in trade that Korea can promote its global competitiveness, he explained.

"As well as our main objectives, we are signing an agreement with Minister Nathan Sharansky for an industrial technology research and development fund.

This is a plan for both governments to invest \$1 million annually to target an accumulated fund of \$6 million dollars in three years. "We also expect to sign a letter of intent between the Technion and the Korean Academy of Industry and Technology for technical cooperation," he said.

Park said Israel has many strong points to offer for joint ventures, mainly its advanced technology and its capital. "Korea can offer its

manufacturing prowess, its talented workforce which is known for hard work and ingenuity, as well as its geographical location as an Asian economic hub." Asked what specific projects he was interested in, Park said that since Korean companies have a proven track record for achievements in building roads, ports and desalination plants, those are the key areas.

"Israel is one of the fittest potential partners for Korean companies in these times and that is why I am here," he said. "Already many big Korean companies, such as Hyundai heavy industries, are active in Israeli projects. I expect great progress in the discussions between the businessmen of the two countries in their meeting of the Joint Israel Korea Business Council [yesterday]." Israel is part of a Middle East tour which also took Park and his delegation to Saudi Arabia, Oman and Egypt. Hyundai has been reported as keen to participate in the project to import Egyptian gas to Israel, and Park was asked if he had discussed the issue in Cairo.

"In my discussions in Egypt, there was no detailed mention of

discussion of this particular topic," he said. "However, Korean companies are very keenly interested in indeed in participating in energy projects."

Park skirted questions about current Arab attitudes to Korea doing business in Israel, saying only that Korea maintains good relations on all sides.

When pressed, he said: "It is not my position to say what the Arab response was."

But it is our intention and goal to maintain good relations with both sides in this area." Asked why Israelis should invest in Korea after so many investors have abandoned Asia, Park said: "Investors may be nervous and that is why we are reversing the investment environment. In the past, our giant conglomerates tended to reject foreign investment in favor of foreign loans. Not any more."

The Seoul government, in order to root out problems that triggered the high-cost, low-efficiency economy that developed during the years of tiger growth, Korea has undertaken a major reform drive costing \$5 b. and underpinned by a massive IMF bail-out package.

Business, government, the financial markets and the labor market are to have the reform programs in place by the end of this year, he said.

Park said a new Foreign Investment Inducement Act became effective on November 17 to entice back investors. "This offers big benefits to investors in the Korean market. Especially important is a wide variety of tax incentives."

Under the law, foreign investment projects will be 100 percent tax free for the first seven years, and for the following three years 50 percent tax free. "There are big changes in other areas such as real estate and capital transaction, all of which means foreigners can operate virtually on an equal footing with Koreans in business," Park said.

Due to the financial turmoil of the past year, corporate Korea's asset has been devalued to 40 or 50 percent of previous levels, partly due to the devaluation of the won and to the massive restructuring drive undertaken by the major conglomerates, he said.

BEEN HERE

PRIME **פריים**
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents
Date: 24.11.98
Purchase Price: 122.99
Redemption Price: 122.33
LEUMI

TARGET **טרגט**
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents
Date: 24.11.98
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The Israel Airports Authority
PUBLIC TENDER NO. C4010055
MULTI-LEVEL ROADWAY & PARKING GARAGES

The Israel Airports Authority (IAA) hereby requests Proposals from qualified Offerors meeting the below listed Pre-Conditions for the Construction of a Multi Level Roadway (MLR) and Parking Garages for the Ben Gurion 2000 Project. The Work of this Contract generally includes construction of an elevated, two-level roadway approximately 800 meters in length, and two three-level Parking garages. The MLR is a cast in place, pre-cast and post-tensioned concrete structure. The parking garages are cast-in-place and pre-cast concrete structures. Included in this Contract is all structural, architectural, foundation, mechanical, and electrical work for these structures.

Preliminary Mandatory Requirements: This list summarizes the Pre-Conditions for an Offeror's proposal to be considered by the IAA. Only the complete language of the Pre-Conditions as stated in the RFP is binding. This text may be obtained by written request, submitted on company letterhead, to the PMF facsimile number stated below.

1. If an Israeli entity, Offeror shall be registered under Classification of both Group C, Branch 100, type 5 (Unlimited) and Group C, Branch 300, Type 5 (Unlimited) under the Registration of Contractors for Construction Works regulations (Classification of Registered Contractors) 1988.
2. Offeror's minimum annual revenue in each of the last three (3) years was not less than the equivalent of Forty Million U.S. Dollars (\$40 Million).
3. Offeror's records must indicate, for each of the last three (3) years, the cost paid directly for labor for at least four hundred (400) persons (annual average).
4. Offeror has constructed and completed at least:
 - a. Two (2) non-residential projects such as parking - garages, office buildings, shopping centers, etc. of not less than 40,000 Square meters (sq.m.) each within the last five (5) years; and
 - b. One (1) precast concrete bridge project of a minimum 70 meters length within the last five (5) years.
5. Offeror shall meet the staffing and personnel experience requirements specified in the RFP, Exhibit A.
6. Offeror shall meet the registration requirements for a legal entity stated in the RFP, Exhibit A.
7. Offeror shall meet the VAT and Israeli Tax Authorities' registration requirements stated in the RFP, Exhibit A.
8. Offeror shall provide an unconditional and irrevocable Bank Guarantee in the amount of Fourteen Million (14,000,000 NIS) New Israeli Shekels, valid for a minimum of ninety (90) days from the Proposal Submission Date, as specified in the RFP, Exhibit E.
9. Joint Ventures are allowed to participate in the Tender in accordance with the conditions stated in the RFP, Part B, Section 2 and Exhibit A.
10. Offeror, if a foreign entity, shall additionally provide a Commercial Cooperation Undertaking Agreement.

Additional Preliminary Requirements:
Participation in the Tender Process is subject to the Offeror's satisfying all Preliminary requirements as detailed in the Mandatory Tender Regulations (1993), Clause 6 (a), (1), (2) and (3).

Proposal Documents: Tender Documents may be purchased until Proposal Submission Date for the non-refundable amount of Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred New Israeli Shekels (19,500 NIS), including VAT.

Tender Documents are available from the Project Management Firm (PMF) Project Office located at Ben Gurion International Airport, starting 26 November, 1998 between the hours of 09:00 and 12:00, business days (Sunday through Thursday). Interested Offerors must contact the PMF Contracts Administrator, Mr. Amnon Yehoshua at telephone number: 972-3-977-4464 (Fax number 972-3-971-2956) a minimum of forty eight (48) hours in advance to arrange Site access. Interested parties may preview the Tender Documents prior to their purchase.

All qualifying Proposals shall be delivered in sealed envelopes/packages not later than 10:00 hours local time on or before 12 January 1999 to the appropriate tender box located in the Archive of the Airports Authority, Main Office, 2nd Floor, Room 113, Ben Gurion International Airport, Israel.

A Pre-Proposal conference will be held at the Ben Gurion 2000 Project site Offices on December 10 1998 at 12:00 to clarify provisions in the RFP documents, to summarize and present the Project and to respond to written questions posed by Offerors. Offerors are strongly encouraged to attend, but participation is not mandatory. Site access must be arranged in advance as stated in the RFP.

The IAA is not bound to accept the lowest Proposal or any proposal whatsoever.

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0.3125
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Currency (deposit for):
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Euro Sterling £100,000
German mark DM 200,000
Swiss franc SF 200,000
French franc FF 200,000

Rates very higher for
Shekel Foreign

CHE TRA Buy	
4.48	American dollar
4.12	British pound
2.42	Canadian dollar
6.55	Dutch guilder
0.72	Euro (per 100)
3.40	Japanese yen
2.15	New Zealand dollar
2.37	Norwegian kroner
0.50	Portuguese escudo
0.56	Saudi riyal
0.53	Spanish peseta
3.79	Swedish krona
2.65	Swiss franc
2.54	Taiwan dollar
0.72	Yemeni rial (10)
1.74	Yemeni rial (100)
3.44	Zimbabwe dollar
2.48	Zimbabwe dollar
5.78	Zimbabwe dollar
4.77	Zimbabwe dollar

Fundtech	18.875	+0.125
Galleo	17.6875	-0.0625
G.Will-Food	1.5	0

13

These rates vary according to the type of work.

SYNOPSIS

هكذا من اللاحق

	LAST	CHANGE
Bayer	70.36	+0.05
Daimler-Benz	154.36	-2.15
Infrastrux	35.6	+0.3
Merck	100.00	+0.00
Mittelstandsbank	28.75	-0.05
Volkswagen	138	+0.5

SOURCE: SAP COMSTOCK (DATE: 25-NOV-98)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Last	Change
S\$ (Swiss) (1)	1.5292	0
U.S. Dollar (1)	1.8487	0
U.S. Dollar (100)	0.5410	-0.57
Deutsche Mark (1)	2.4621	0
French Franc (1)	6.7295	0
Swiss Franc (100)	0.6600	-0.01
S\$ (Swiss) (1)	2.9891	0
Swiss Franc (1)	2.6559	0
Swiss Franc (100)	0.3768	-0.00
Jordanian Dinar (1)	5.8408	0

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	8314.28	+13.15
DJ Transport	3068.61	-20.11
NIJ Index	210.0	-0.57
DJ Commodities	2876.08	-1.28
NYSE Index	722.42	+2.25
NYSE Composite	67.82	+0.61
S&P 500	581.04	+0.15
SAP 100	587.85	+2.37
S&P Spot Index	1116.87	-3.03
twz Index	252.44	-2.42

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	5755.9	-12.8
FTSE 100 Index	107.84	-0.12
Singapore of China Index	353.98	-4.4
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	10729.8	-150.8
S&P 500 Index	581.04	-0.04
Panx CAC 40	3409.40	+10.46
DAX	5018.12	0
S&P 500 Index	581.04	-0.03
S&P 500 Index	705.68	-114.5
Spain	2749.4	-0.9
Telcel	1398.8	+114.3

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US\$)

	Last	Change
Pound: spot	1.6593	-0.0006
Dec future (CME)	1.6593	-0.0002
D-mart: spot	1.7043	-0.0009
Dec future (CME)	1.5877	-0.0009
F-franc: spot	1.6593	-0.0002
Dec future (CME)	1.7119	-0.0002
Nz: spot	1.27	+0.25
Dec future (CME)	1.0067	-0.0002
Can\$tr: spot	1.839	-0.0116
Dec future (CME)	1.839	-0.0004
F-franc: spot	0.8937	-0.0002
Dec future (CME)	0.8937	-0.0002
F-franc: spot	5.977	-0.0002
Dec future (CME)	1.6675	-0.0002
Li: spot	1.827	-0.0006
Nz: spot	1.1588	-0.0187
Dec future (CME)	5.885	-0.0002
RD: spot	1.7546	-0.0011

US COMMODITIES

Cocoa (Dut) (DCE)	148.5	+26
Coffee (Dut) (DCE)	114.18	0
Wheat (Dut) (DCE)	20.7	+2
Soybeans (Jan) (DCE)	571.25	+1
Chicago Jan (MCHCE)	11.6	-0.05
Change CR (NYMEX)	22.14	0
Bonds - Duration	1250.9	0
S and P Decline	1765.5	-1.3

LONDON COMMODITIES		
	Last	Change
Cocoa (Dut) (LCE)	155	+4
Coffee (Dut) (LCE)	155.6	0
Sugar (Mty) (LCE)	240	+1.5
Brent crude oil (DCE/PE)		

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)		
	Last	Change
Silver: spot	4.94	+0.03

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES		
	Last	Change
Gold (Dec)	386.5	+0.1

Platinum (Jan)	354	-0.6
Palladium (Dec)	277.8	+1.85
High-grade copper (Dec)	0.704	+0.008


LONDON METAL FIXES

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	296.2	+0.25
Gold PM fix	296.3	-0.15
Silver fix	481.5	-0.3

Month in parenthesis signals contract exp. date
 (Spot market listings are from approximately

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 25-NOV-88)

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HS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
	4.800	5.090
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	2.280	2.700
	0.190	0.580

Indicated according to deposit			
Rate Rates* (25.11.98)			
	BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates**
	Buy	Sell	
588	—	—	4.5242
593	4.05	4.25	4.1570
628	2.38	2.50	2.4431
719	6.73	7.08	6.9160
945	0.71	0.75	0.7285
994	3.34	3.51	3.4285
947	2.11	2.22	2.1689
947	2.88	3.03	2.9610
78	0.50	0.53	0.5126
02	0.54	0.57	0.5551
77	0.62	0.66	0.6426
99	0.78	0.83	0.8035
40	2.61	2.76	2.6826
59	2.80	2.73	2.6646
85	0.85	0.74	0.7305
38	1.15	1.22	1.1843
00	3.38	3.55	3.4730
76	2.40	2.53	2.4573
24	5.88	6.10	5.9406
24	1.16	1.26	1.2679
77	—	—	4.8076
82	5.82	6.21	6.0726
81	2.80	2.94	2.8723

Mark benefit

Copper rises o

Oil

Brent crude oil futures for

group of fuels that includes heating oil, both fell.

Others

US bonds little

US bonds were little changed, as investors looked for fresh signs that the economy is slowing before buying.

Investors need signs of moder-

most actively traded issue, were 4.62 percent, compared with 4.629 percent when the notes were sold Tuesday.

The bond market closed an hour

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Thursday, November 26
EMERGENCY
PHARMACIES
Hertziya: Super Pharm. Gilo com-

6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim),
Hertziya Pituh, 854-9903. Open 9
a.m. to 10 p.m.
Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lav
Ha'ir Mall, 657-0488. Open 9 a.m. to
10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

s on rate speculation

hopes of consum

COMMODITIES




expand construction projects and boost demand for copper wiring and plumbing.

Copper for March delivery fell as

changed amid robust

BONDS



rate cuts during the past two months helped reverse that flight to quality. Bond yields rose more than 50 basis points from a three-decade low of 4.65 percent in early

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Aviv 523-4819, 544-8191 (men).

Jerusalem 625-6558, Haifa 853-0533,
Eilat 633-1977.

Madassah Medical Organization -

ions

4.5 percent more than were harvested in the 1997-98 season. Coffee for January delivery rose as much as \$20, or 12 percent, to

data
month. Earlier this month the government sold \$38 billion of five- and 10-year notes and 30-year bonds. "The new supply is behind us," said David Duerson, head gov-

daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from
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CURRENCIES

will continue. If it does, the return on dollar deposits will fall along with US interest rates. Mark deposits – or, starting next year, deposits denominated in the European Union's single currency, the euro – will hold their value.

COMMODITIES

changed a

BONDS



BONDS

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Table 1. Summary of the results of the regression analysis

Maccabi Haifa women keep winning ways

By AMMANIAH DE VRIES

Round six of the Women's National League saw first place Maccabi Haifa turning in their sixth straight win of the season with a 6-1 home victory over Maccabi Tel Aviv. Haifa's top scorer, Meital Dayan, found the net four times for the home team while teammate Nati Hajaj dazzled the 200 spectators with a spectacular score from 30 meters out.

The Red Devils of Hapoel Tel Aviv also put on a good show, beating visitors Betar Jerusalem 8-0 despite the heavy fog. The Tel Avivians hope to do even better with the addition of national side star Silvi Jann, who is considered many the best female player in Israel. Jann has returned after three successful years in the Norwegian professional women's league.

Heavy fog also played a role in other round six fixtures. The "Mechnes derby" between Maccabi Netanya, under the management of Gad Mechnes, and ASA Tel Aviv, coached by brother

Oded, was called off after the half. The score was 4-1 for ASA.

Hapoel Petah Tikva lost 7-0 at home to Bnot Ramle. Saturday, Bnot Ramle will host league leader Maccabi Haifa; Maccabi Ahi-Nazareth welcome Maccabi Netanya on Sunday in a bottom-of-the-table clash. All other matches will be played on Monday: Maccabi Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Marmorek, Hapoel Ashkelon take on Hapoel Petah Tikva, third place ASA Tel Aviv host second place Hapoel Tel Aviv, and in Jerusalem Betar and Hapoel are slated to put on a derby.

Women's National League	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Maccabi Haifa	6	4	0	0	57	2	18
Hapoel Tel Aviv	6	5	0	1	32	3	15
ASA Tel Aviv	5	4	1	0	41	3	13
Hapoel Ashkelon	5	3	1	1	22	5	10
Bnot Ramle	5	3	0	2	16	7	9
Maccabi Tel Aviv	5	3	0	2	12	14	9
Hapoel Marmorek	4	2	0	4	20	33	6
Betar Jerusalem	6	1	1	4	35	4	4
Ahi-Nazareth	5	1	0	4	3	22	3
Hapoel Netanya	5	1	0	4	3	22	3
Maccabi Netanya	5	0	1	4	4	20	1
Hapoel Jerusalem	3	0	0	3	13	6	0



NEW YORK (AP) — Randall Cunningham and Bubby Brister's careers were supposedly over. Vinny Testaverde threw interceptions and had never lived up to his Heisman hype. Doug Flutie's height got him banished to Canada and Chris Chandler was considered an injury prone career backup.

Donald Hollas? Never heard of him.

So who are the star quarterbacks of the 1998 season? Most of the above, plus old standbys John Elway and Steve Young.

Even if you can't figure out the algebra by which the quarterback ratings are determined, this much is clear: The top eight quarterbacks in those ratings are 33 or older, nine counting Brister, who has had a hand in six wins filling in for Elway in Denver but hasn't thrown enough passes to officially qualify.

—Six of the bottom seven are under 26, including Peyton Manning and Ryan Leaf, the first two picks in last April's draft.

"It's just harder and harder for a young quarterback to walk right in and play," says Brian Billick, the Minnesota offensive coordinator who has overseen Cunningham's revival. "You have all these bright defensive coaches who keep coming up with different looks that guys fresh out of college just don't see."

Cunningham is perhaps the best example, leading the league in passing at age 36 after sitting out the 1996 season running a marble and granite business in Las Vegas. He signed last year with Minnesota and this year took over when Brad Johnson broke an ankle in the second game, leading the Vikings to a 10-1 record.

That followed 11 turbulent seasons in Philadelphia in which Cunningham made dozens of highlight reels but never got beyond the second round of the playoffs. He was a run-first, throw-second quarterback with a

reputation for selfishness. He read defensive linemen to look for running opportunities, even though all QBs are taught to take their clues from the safeties.

After two serious injuries, he was let go by the Eagles after the 1995 season, sat out, then re-emerged in Minnesota as a classic pocket passer whose skills mesh perfectly with the trio of Chris Carter, Jake Reed and rookie Randy Moss.

"The game is different for me now," says Cunningham, who now reads safeties like everyone else. "Sitting out that year gave me the perspective to see what I had to do to become successful."

Each of the old quarterbacks has a different story, although there's one common denominator — all but Chandler began the year as backups.

Flutie, whose magic at Boston College in 1984 won him the Heisman Trophy, drifted through the USFL to the Bears and Patriots, and finally to the Canadian Football League, where he was MVP six times in eight seasons. He was signed for the

minimum to back up Rob Johnson in Buffalo, took over when Johnson was injured and has led the Bills to six of their seven victories.

Chandler, 33, went through Indianapolis, Tampa Bay, Arizona and Houston as a marginal starter, a quarterback who could look good for a while but was better off as a backup because he couldn't stay healthy. But he's 13-4 as a starter with the Falcons, who may be headed for their first NFC West title since 1980.

Brister, 36, started 71 games with no particular distinction for the Steelers, Eagles and Jets. He spent 1996 without a job and landed last season in Denver as Elway's backup.

This year, he's finished two games for the unbeaten Broncos and is 4-0 as a starter, even running 38 yards for a touchdown two weeks ago against Kansas City.

Testaverde, the first pick by Tampa Bay in the 1987 draft, set a modern NFL record by throwing 35 interceptions in 1988, and was up-and-down in Cleveland and

Baltimore. He was released in the offseason by the Ravens, signed by the Jets as a backup to Glenn Foley and replaced Foley when he got hurt. He's 8-1 as a starter and has 18 touchdowns to four interceptions, after entering the season with a 175-183 TD-interception ratio.

Hollas, 31, is a career third stringer who threw for 645 yards for the Bengals in 1991 and 1992 and none since. But he's 4-1 as Jeff George's replacement in Oakland — he's not pretty, but he wins.

"You learn a lot just watching tape and practicing," Billick says. "You hang around long enough and you're very aware."

While the Broncos are seeking to become the NFL's first unbeaten team since the 1972 Dolphins, they should remember that Miami team started 38-year-old Earl Morrall at quarterback in eight of 14 regular-season games because Bob Griese was out injured.

And of the 32 Super Bowl winners, 18 have had quarterbacks 30 years or older.

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48/98/941/D Generic platform for public voice services As detailed in the tender documents 12.1.99 6 p.m. NIS1,000 02-539-5615

94/98/053/D Conducting a customer survey 8.12.98 6 p.m. NIS1,000 02-539-5614

The following general conditions apply:

1. Preconditions:

- (a) Compliance with all legal requirements regarding the keeping of accounts, registration as an authorized trader, any other legally required registration, the holding of the necessary licenses and compliance with standards.
- (b) The provision of a guarantee, ensuring fulfillment of the work covered by the tender, as detailed in the tender documents.
- (c) The preconditions for tender 94/98/053/D - and minimum conditions for both - are detailed in the tender documents.

2. The tender documents can be obtained from the Purchasing Department, 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem, Sunday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

The documents will be supplied on presentation of a receipt, showing payment of the above amount.

In Israel, payment should be made into Bezeq's account number 5-311757 at the Postal Bank.

Overseas participants should credit Bezeq's account number 12-901-97633/64 in the main Jerusalem branch of Bank Leumi.

This sum is non-returnable.

The receipt and details of the bidder, including registered trader's number, can be faxed to 972-2-5378113. Receipt of a fax can be confirmed by telephoning the above number.

3. Bids should be placed in the tenders box at 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem.

4. Bezeq does not undertake to accept the lowest or any bid, or to place the entire order with one bidder.

5. Bids submitted by fax or telegram will not be considered.

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SPORTS

in brief

No yuletide joy from NBA

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA informed NBC on Tuesday that the network's Christmas Day doubleheader, featuring the Chicago Bulls and possibly Michael Jordan, is the latest casualty of the nearly five-month-long lockout.

In place of the New York Knicks at the Chicago Bulls and the Los Angeles Lakers at the Phoenix Suns doubleheader, NBC will show Frank Capra's Christmas movie *It's a Wonderful Life* starring Jimmy Stewart.

There were no talks held on day 147 of the NBA lockout, and the next full negotiating session won't be held until Saturday. NBC and Turner Sports, in the first year of a \$2.64 billion, four-year deal with the NBA, are paying rights fees to the league during the lockout.

Yankees, Cablevision said to break off talks

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner and Cablevision Systems Corp. have broken off talks about the possible sale of a major interest in the team, Dow Jones newswires reported Tuesday.

The sides couldn't agree on how much control Steinbrenner would retain over the team, the report said. The sides have been trying to negotiate a deal for a month.

Cablevision owns the Yankees TV rights under a \$486 million, 12-year contract that expires after the 2000 season. In the open market, the Yankees' TV rights are estimated to be worth an average of \$100-150m under a new 8- to 10-year deal.

Beijing bids for 2008 Olympics

BEIJING (AP) — China's capital announced yesterday it will bid to serve as host to the 2008 Summer Olympics.

Beijing's announcement won quick support from a government minister, who said China — as the world's most populous nation — should stage the games.

Beijing lost to Sydney by two votes in the 1993 selection for the host of the 2000 Games. China chose not to pursue the 2004 Olympics.

Criticism of China's human rights record was a factor in the 1993 vote. China's reputation has also been marred by a string of doping scandals.

Officially, competition to stage the 2008 Games hasn't even begun, although Toronto and Osaka, Japan, have already declared they want to be host.

Bids are also expected from Buenos Aires, Argentina; Istanbul, Turkey; and Seville, Spain. Paris, Kuala Lumpur and Cairo are also weighing possible bids.

Sex charges against cricket ump made public

HOBART (AP) — Sex charges against Australian international cricket umpire Steve Randall were made public yesterday.

Randall will plead not guilty to 26 charges including allegations that he had sexual intercourse with an underage boy and that he allegedly fondled or stroked 10 different females.

Randall, 42, is a Hobart primary schoolteacher who has stood in an Australian record 36 Test matches.

The 26 charges include 11 different people, 10 of them female of undisclosed age. The offenses allegedly occurred in different parts of Tasmania between 1979 and 1995.

Randall has stood down from umpiring and been suspended from teaching on full pay.

Boxing ban for under 14s

SYDNEY (AP) — New South Wales Sports Minister Gabrielle Harrison announced yesterday an immediate ban on children aged under 14 from taking part in competitive boxing.

Harrison said cabinet agreed to the ban and she had legal advice it could be enforced immediately.

Promoters will face fines of AUSS 2,200 for breaking the order.

"It's a shame that children will still be able to go across the border and fight in other states but at least New South Wales has done the right thing," she said.

The ban would also apply to competitive kickboxing.

Polish appeal against knife ban rejected

GENEVA (AP) — European soccer's governing body yesterday affirmed a season-long ban from European soccer imposed on Polish club Wisla Krakow over an alleged knife-throwing incident in a UEFA Cup match last month.

The Polish club's lawyer, Reinhard Rauball, who disclosed the decision by the UEFA appeals committee, said the rejection of the Krakow appeal was "a sporting and a financial disaster" for the club.

Rauball said he didn't dispute the details of the Oct. 20 incident, in which UEFA says Italian midfielder Dino Baggio was struck by a knife thrown from the stands. He needed five stitches to close a head wound. Polish police have detained a 19-year-old man.

But he said the season-long ban was too severe. Rauball noted that Krakow is 10 points clear at the top of the Polish league and expects to qualify for European cup competition next year.

Rodman, de la Hoya face criminal complaint

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A cocktail waitress who sued Dennis Rodman for assault this month has filed a criminal complaint against the NBA star.

The action comes two days after Rodman filed papers to end his marriage to actress Carmen Electra. They wed in Las Vegas on November 14, and Rodman now wants an annulment, citing fraud and unsound mind.

Susan Patterson says Rodman jammed a \$100 bill down her blouse and grabbed her breast while she was working at the Fenix in the Argyle Hotel in West Hollywood.

Like the lawsuit she filed earlier this month, the criminal complaint cites assault, battery, negligence, false imprisonment and emotional distress in a confrontation with Rodman in October.

In other developments, a woman is suing welterweight champion Oscar de la Hoya for raping her 2½ years ago when she was 15 years old. The complaint alleges sexual battery, assault and false imprisonment.

Brother Teammate List

Some notable brothers who were teammates in major league baseball history:
 Aaron, Hank and Tommie, Milwaukee, 1952-53, 1955-56, 1958-71.
 Alomar, Roberto and Sandy Jr., San Diego 1988, Cleveland 1989.
 Alou, Felipe, Jesus and Matty, San Francisco 1963, Jesus and Matty, San Francisco 1964-65, Felipe and Matty, New York (AL) 1973.
 Brett, George and Ken, Kansas City 1980-81.
 Cooper, Mort and Walker, St. Louis (NL) 1940-45.
 Dean, Dizzy and Paul, St. Louis (NL) 1934-37.
 Ferrell, Rick and Wes, Boston (AL) 1934-37; Washington, 1937-38.
 Guerrero, Vladimir and Wilton, Montreal 1998.
 Martinez, Pedro and Ramon, Los Angeles 1992-93.
 Niekro, Joe and Phil, New York (AL) 1985.
 Perry, Gaylord and Jim, Cleveland (AL) 1974-75.
 Reuschel, Paul and Rick, Chicago (NL) 1975-78.
 Ripken, Billy and Cal, Baltimore 1987-92, 1996.
 Torre, Frank and Joe, Milwaukee 1960.
 Warner, Lloyd and Paul, Pittsburgh 1927-1940; Boston (NL) 1941 and 1944.

Sampras clinches semis berth

Agassi retires in match against Corretja; Kafelnikov beats Kucera

HANOVER (AP) — Pete Sampras is playing too well to have to worry about figuring out the intricacies of the round-robin format.

After beating Carlos Moya 6-3, 6-3 yesterday, Sampras was not even aware that he had clinched a place in the semifinals of the ATP World Championship.

"That's nice to hear," Sampras said after being told at the post-match news conference that he had secured a place in the last four. "It's certainly a good feeling to be here over the weekend," Sampras said.

Sampras is seeking to become the first man to finish as No. 1 in the world for six years in a row.

Marcelo Rios, the only player who can threaten Sampras, trails by 33 points in the computer rankings and has to do better than Sampras in the elite season-ending championship that brings together the top eight players of the year.

But Rios, who was not scheduled to play yesterday, lost his first match to Tim Henman and is battling a back injury. He now has to win his next two round-robin matches to reach the semifinals and stay in the chase.

The eight players are split into two groups and Sampras and Rios cannot meet until the semifinals.

"It helps," Sampras said of Rios losing the first match.

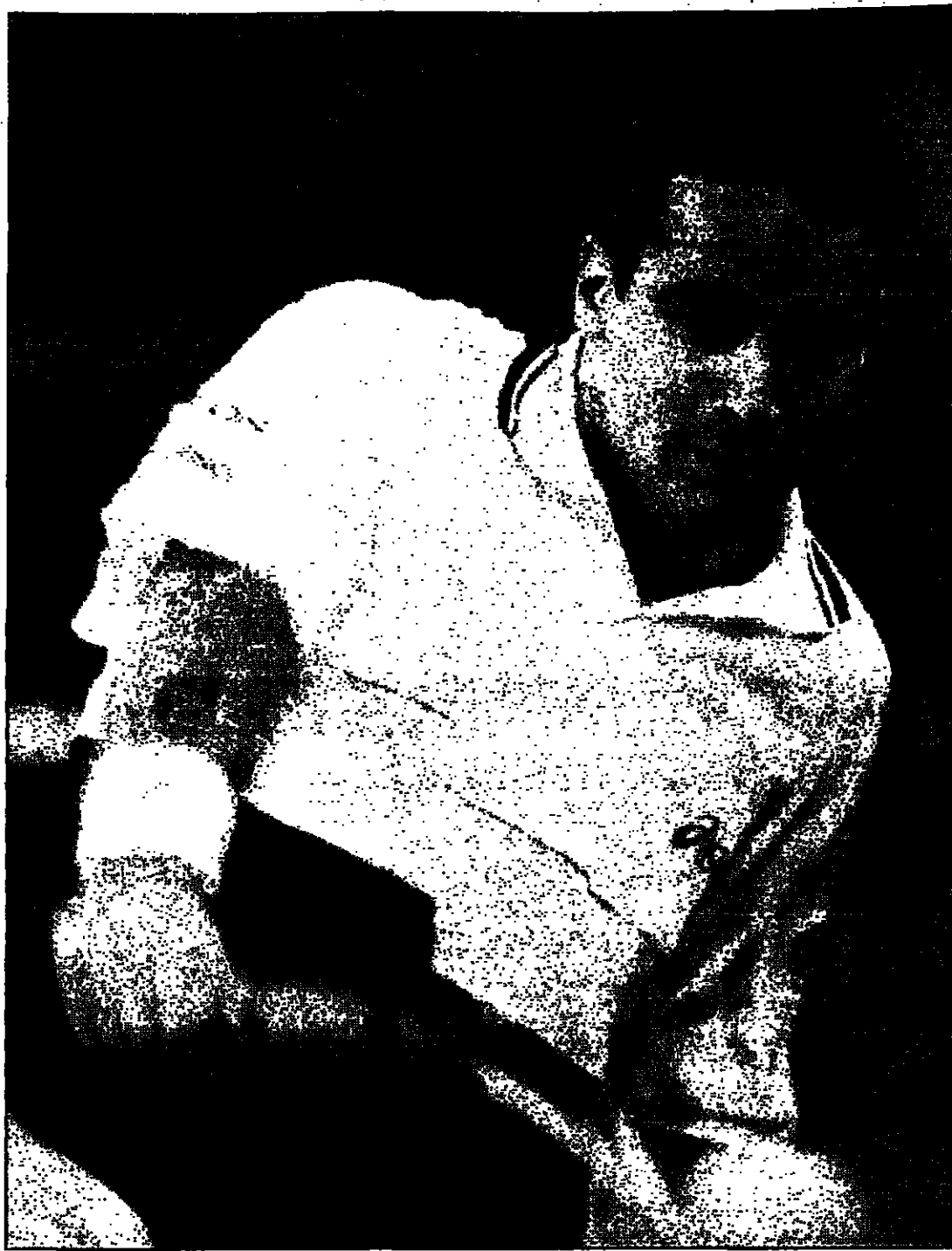
"I'm also helping myself by winning. I can't really be too concerned about what Marcelo is doing. I have to concentrate on my matches. If I take care of things myself and go out and win, then it should be hopefully good enough. But I must admit I was rooting for the Englishman (Henman) yesterday," Sampras said.

Sampras was certainly good enough to beat Moya in only 62 minutes. Moya, the French Open champion who is now 1-1, had beaten Sampras in a group match last year but Sampras went on to win the \$3.5 million event for the fourth time.

On Tuesday, Sampras was equally impressive in dismissing Yevgeny Kafelnikov in straight sets.

"It's not easy to play well like I have been today and yesterday. I was coming into today's match pretty confident," Sampras said. "I wanted to make sure I was coming in a little bit more than last year, clipping and charging, trying to put as much pressure on him as possible. Last year I must admit I felt a little flat. This year, with the ranking up for grabs, I just made a concerted effort to come here a little bit early and prepare as best as I can."

"It's obviously a very big week for Marcelo and I (sic). I just



BACKING IN — Alex Corretja returns a ball to Andre Agassi in yesterday's action at the ATP World Championships in Hanover. Agassi pulled out of the match with back pains. (Reuters)

wanted to give myself the best chance possible to play well here," said Sampras, who fired 13 aces.

The second American in the field, Andre Agassi, retired in his opening match against Alex Corretja because of a back injury. Corretja was leading 5-7, 6-3, 2-1 when Agassi quit.

Agassi, who won the event in 1990, said he would wait until today before deciding whether to continue the tournament, which is possible under its round-robin format, but added that he would be surprised if he played.

"It was definitely painful even

this morning in my warmup. I needed to give it a go, at least try to keep the points short," Agassi said.

"But I hit a swinging volley and when I twisted it was just like somebody stuck a knife in me. Pretty soon it got quite pointless," he said.

Agassi, who won the event in 1990, said he would wait until today before deciding whether to continue the tournament, which is possible under its round-robin format, but added that he would be surprised if he played.

Although he has surged back No. 4 this year after falling as low as No. 141 at the same time last year, Agassi has not done well at major tournaments this season.

"The year has been great for me in many respects, but the great tournaments have been pretty disappointing," Agassi said.

In late action, Yevgeny Kafelnikov beat Karol Kucera 6-7 (3-7), 6-3, 6-2 in the last match yesterday and improved to 1-1. Kucera dropped to 0-2.

Blackhawks still wait for No. 2,000

Coyotes beat Chicago, 3-2, for sixth-straight victory



PHOENIX

(AP) — Keith Tkachuk scored twice and assisted on Jeremy Roenick's decisive goal.

giving stingy Phoenix a 3-2 victory Tuesday night over the Chicago Blackhawks — a league best sixth straight win for the Coyotes.

Phoenix is now 10-0-2 in its last 12 games — the second-longest unbeaten streak in franchise history. The Coyotes could tie their franchise mark — set as the Winnipeg Jets during the 1984-85 season — tonight against New Jersey.

The game also was 15th in a row in which the Coyotes have held opponents to two goals or less — the longest streak since the 1958-59 Montreal Canadiens set the NHL set the record of 18 straight.

Tony Amonte and Ethan Moreau scored for Chicago, but weren't able to give the Blackhawks their 2,000th win. Chicago is 1,999-2,098-750 since joining the NHL in 1926.

Blase 4, Predators 0

Pavel Demitra had a goal and two assists, and Jamie McLennan

got his first shutout of the season as St. Louis won at home.

This was the Blues' third look at the expansion Predators in 11 days, and they took two of three.

McLennan is the backup to the injured Grant Fuhr, who's out 4-6 weeks with a groin strain.

McLennan left Saturday's game after one period with back spasms, but showed no signs of stiffness against the Predators despite facing only 19 shots.

Scott Young, Al MacInnis and Pierre Turgeon also scored for the Blues.

Bruins 4, Lightning 1

Ray Bourque scored a power-play goal during a four-goal third period as host Tampa Bay was sent to its sixth-straight loss.

Bourque, who has scored 10 of his 11 points on the power play, got his second goal of the season from the top of the left circle with 5:41 remaining.

Dmitri Khristich, who added two assists, had tied the game 1-1 on his team-leading 11th goal with 17:40 left in the third period. Steve Heinze had a breakaway goal with 16:53 remaining and Kyle McLaren scored with 1:19 left.

Khristich has four goals and eight points in his past three games.

Brent Peterson scored the Lightning goal at 2:39 of the first period.

Tampa Bay's losing streak is its fourth of six or more games since the start of the 1997-98 season.

Boston 0-0-4
 Tampa Bay 0-0-1
 First Period: 1, Tampa Bay, Peterson 1 (Bellevue, Langstaff), 1:08. Second Period: None. Third Period: 2, Boston, Khristich 11 (Gill), 2:39. 3, Boston, Bourque 2 (Allison, Khristich), 14:19 (pp.). 4, Boston, Heinze 7 (Carter), 16:53. 5, Boston, McLaren 2 (Khristich, Samonov), 18:41. Shots on goal: Nashville 10-6-15-22, Tampa Bay 8-6-5-16.

Missed penalty shot: Langstaff, TB, 8:27 (pp.). Goals: Boston, Tates, Tampa Bay, Hartford. A-3,824.

Nashville 0-0-0
 St. Louis 11-2-4
 First Period: 1, St. Louis, Young 3 (Demina, Turgeon), 7:46 (pp.). Second Period: 2, St. Louis, Demina 10 (Peters, MacInnis), 15:06 (pp.). Third Period: 3, St. Louis, MacInnis 9 (Eastwood), 18:22. 4, St. Louis, Turgeon 8 (Peters), 18:24. Shots on goal: Nashville 4-8-7-19, St. Louis 11-15-17-31. Goals: Nashville, Chicago, St. Louis, McLaren, A-18,167.

Chicago 011-2
 Phoenix 102-3
 First Period: 1, Phoenix, Tkachuk 11 (Fleischel, Daniel), 16:57. Second Period: 2, Chicago, Amadio 14 (Zemmer, Chelios), 19:40. Third Period: 3, Phoenix, Tkachuk 12 (Fleischel, Daniel), 1:58 (pp.). Phoenix, Roenick 4 (Tkachuk, Daniel), 5:08. 5, Chicago, Moreau 4 (Gilmour, Marshall), 8:08. Shots on goal: Chicago 7-15-10-32, Phoenix 11-4-8-23. Goals: Chicago, Tkachuk, Phoenix, Khabibulin, A-18,210.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	11	6	1	23	44	42
Pittsburgh	9	5	4	22	33	45
Philadelphia	9	6	4	22	50	39
N.Y. Islanders	9	11	0	18	53	55
N.Y. Rangers	5	8	6	16	47	52

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	11	8	2	24	43	41
Quebec	9	6	3	21	55	46
Ottawa	8	7	5	21	54	42
Buffalo	8	4	4	20	45	29
Montreal	7	10	2	16	45	55

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	8	10	3	19	53	55
Florida	6	7	5	17	42	51
Washington	6	9	3	15	42	51
Tampa Bay	6	12	2	14	44	75

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	8	5	5	21	51	41
Detroit	10	8	0	20	57	46
Kansas City	7	11	1	15	45	59
Chicago	5	13	3	13	41	75

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Edmonton	10	8	1	21	60	50
Vancouver	9	9	1	19	62	51
Colorado	8	9	2	18	51	56
Calgary	7	11	2	16	53	59

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Phoenix	12	2	2	26	46	24
Dallas	11	3	3	25	47	34
Anaheim	8	7	4	20	46	42
Los Angeles	6	12	3	15	49	59
San Jose	4	9	5	13	44	47

Joltin' Joe improving

Former Yankees great celebrates 84th birthday in hospital

NEW YORK (AP) — Joe DiMaggio got good news for his 84th birthday yesterday: He was improving steadily after lung cancer surgery and could be removed from intensive care by the end of the day.

"The prognosis for his recovery is good," said Dr. Earl Barron, the lead doctor on a team of six physicians who have been treating the Hall of Fame baseball player in Florida.

Barron for the first time confirmed DiMaggio had a cancerous tumor removed from his right lung.

He said the surgery was done two days after DiMaggio entered the hospital last month, and that the New York Yankees great had suffered severe post-operative complications, including a serious lung infection.

"For a while, it was touch and go, but he has been showing steady improvement and he possibly could be out of intensive care today," Barron said.

Because of his age, DiMaggio's progress is "guarded," Barron said, but he added that the former centerfielder's condition is very good, compared to what it had been.

DiMaggio began his birthday celebration at 6 a.m. with a cup of well-wishers crowded into his room at Memorial Regional Hospital in Hollywood, Florida, which included his brother Dom, also a former major league outfielder and his lawyer and longtime friend, Morris Engelberg.

Barron said DiMaggio still was on a respirator, but the setting was 50 percent of what it had been at the height of the crisis, and he could be weaned from it by the end of the week.

The main problem was a buildup of fluid in DiMaggio's lungs, and at one point, an opening was made in his trachea to help his breathing.

Barron said DiMaggio had never had a heart attack, contrary to television reports earlier this week.

"It was a tremendous drop in blood pressure, and it scared the life out of me," said Engelberg, named as DiMaggio's spokesman.

Engelberg said he became so concerned by the DiMaggio's critical turn on November 10 that a Roman Catholic priest was summoned to give last rites.

"But I came in the next morning and he was shaving himself," said Engelberg. "He's amazing."

Engelberg said DiMaggio had instructed him not to divulge any information about his condition, but because of recent erroneous TV reports, DiMaggio agreed to allow Barron to speak.

Hadad, Dahan vie for top racket

By HEATHER CHAIT

Amir Hadad and Lior Dahan will battle out the final of the masters stage of the Friedman men's satellite circuit in Ofakim today.

The winners of the first three stages, Noam Behr and twice-winner Ofer Sela fell in the second and semifinal rounds respectively, but Sela still comes out of the circuit having picked up the most points overall.

Yesterday Hadad, seeded fourth, beat Sela 7-6(9/7), 6-1 and Dahan beat Raviv Weidenfeld 7-5, 6-7(5/7), 6-1.

Hadad is at number 322 in the ATP Tour rankings with Dahan almost 300 places below him at 612.

Both the singles and doubles titles are within Sela's reach after he won yesterday's doubles final with Yoni Erlich, which they won by beating Mitty Arnold from the US and Italy's Alessandro de Col 6-2, 6-4.

Leading the local players in the ATP rankings is Lior Mor with his new and best slot of 187, followed by Harel Levy at 224 and Eyal Ran at 229.

West Indies readies for first cricket Test against S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — It seems hard to believe there has only been one cricket Test between South Africa and the West Indies.

Today's meeting at the Wanderers stadium in Johannesburg — the opener of a five-Test series — marks the first real trial of strength between the two teams rated by the authoritative Wisden rankings as the second- and third-best Test-playing teams.

Given the topsy-turvy form of the Caribbean players, South African fans are anticipating a measure of revenge for the come-from-behind defeat inflicted on them in the dramatic one-off Barbados Test of 1992, South Africa's first Test match after the apartheid isolation.

That match saw South Africa needing just 79 runs to score on the final day, with eight second-innings wickets still in hand. They had outplayed the West Indians

comprehensively, batting and bowling better throughout.

But they had not reckoned on the fast-bowling skills of the islanders, and Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh scythed through them like a pair of grinning reapers. The remainder of South Africa's batting lineup mustered just 26 runs between them, and South Africa lost by 52 runs.

Ambrose and Walsh will compete again this time. The gentle nature of Ambrose's efforts against Free State, which beat the West Indies last weekend, and the talk of Walsh's injury should be ignored.

Despite any natural glee at the assumed decline and fall of arguably the finest opening bowling duo in the last decade, the giants remain fearsome when given a sniff of a breakthrough.

In South Africa's favor and in a direct counter to the customary strong point of

the West Indies is an opening bowling duo the equal or better of any in the world.

Allan Donald is widely regarded as the best fast bowler in world cricket, and the Coopers and Lybrand ratings confirm this opinion. His partner in pace, Shaun Pollock, is rapidly becoming the best all-rounder in the world. But it is his ranking at sixth in the world as a bowler which gives the South African attack an edge over the West Indies.

While the West Indies batting is blessed with the proven skills and scoring abilities of captain Brian Lara, Carl Hooper and Shivnarine Chanderpaul, and the free-scoring and aggressive batting approach of openers Clayton Lambert and Phil Wallace, the tourists have not clicked into run-plundering mode of late.

And, as individuals, they certainly have not succeeded with any degree of consistency.

Against that, seven of South Africa's top eight in the batting order are ranked amongst the world's top 100 batsmen.

Leading the list is captain Hansie Cronje, and he has struck rich form, scoring a quick and big hundred against the tourists in their final first-class game before this Test.

The others, Gary Kirsten, Darryl Cullinan, Jacques Kallis, Pollock, J

